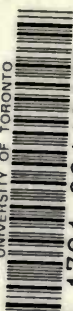


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MACFARLANE'S  
GEOGRAPHICAL COLLECTIONS  
VOL. III.

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S.

# GEOGRAPHICAL COLLECTIONS

RELATING TO SCOTLAND

MADE BY

WALTER MACFARLANE

Edited from Macfarlane's Transcript  
in the Advocates' Library

BY

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## PREFACE

IN Volume III. of Macfarlane's Geographical Collections relating to Scotland there are several articles that cannot be described as either Geographical or Topographical. In this respect Volume III. differs from Volume I. and also, though to a smaller extent, from Volume II. It differs also from the second volume in that the articles, with only one or two exceptions, are all in English.

The larger part of this third volume was transcribed for Macfarlane by John Taitt, who was also the transcriber of Volumes I. and II. The concluding part of Volume III.—viz., from the History of the Clans, p. 259, to the end—was done by another transcriber whose name we do not know. That he was very inferior to Taitt as a transcriber is shown by the abundance of errors in that part of the transcript done by him. As long as Taitt acted as transcriber the manuscript has, as in the case of Volumes I. and II., been closely followed. But with regard to the portion done by his successor, it was thought desirable to correct as far as possible what clearly appeared to be errors in transcribing. To a large extent these were known with certainty through collation with the originals from which he appears to have copied.

In Jo. Ben's Description of Orkney (p. 302), which has a special interest from its having been written as far back as 1529, the Latin in the Macfarlane manuscript was found to have errors in certain parts, and it was decided to follow some-

what closely the print of the Description as given in Barry's *History of Orkney*, 1805. Errors, however—chiefly grammatical—also occur in Barry's print, and these too have been corrected, but no change has been made that affects the sense.

The translation of Ben's Orkney (p. 313) here given formerly belonged to Captain F. W. L. Thomas, and is now in the possession of Sir Arthur Mitchell. The translator, whose name is not known, follows the Latin very literally, but there is sometimes a quaintness about the phraseology that gives it a certain charm.

After the text of Macfarlane, with the above translation of Jo. Ben's Description of Orkney, had been printed off, it was discovered that another old translation existed, and was in the possession of the Rev. Thomas Mathewson, Lerwick. It is headed as having been made by 'W. Henderson.' It begins with the date 14th October 1812, and each day's work, as the translation proceeded, has its own date on the margin, till the end is reached on the 17th October. It has the look of an original document and not of a transcript. There is no indication of where the Latin existed of which it is a translation. The Note in English on the Husbandry of Orkney, that is given both in Barry and in Sir James Balfour's transcript in the Advocates' Library, is absent.

At first the translator was accepted as being the William Henderson of Bardister, who gave large assistance to Hibbert in preparing his *History of Shetland* (1822), who was a man of considerable culture, and who, according to Mr. Francis J. Grant, died unmarried at Leith in 1824. The Rev. Thomas Mathewson, however, says that he was married but lived apart from his wife; that he had two sons, one of whom was called William and was buried at Ollaberry; and that the translation was made by this son and is in his handwriting. The date does not exclude either view. The script of the elder Henderson, Hibbert's friend, has been seen, through the kindness of his descendant Mr. A. Shaw Mellor, and it is found to



be not unlike that of the translation, but there is no such close correspondence as to remove all uncertainty.

This Henderson Translation differs considerably from the Translation that came to Sir Arthur Mitchell from the Collections of Captain Thomas, being less literal and in better English, but there is no difference that amounts to a difference of sense or matter.

A translation of Jo. Ben's Description of Orkney is probably for the first time given in print in this volume. The Description appears in print, but in Latin only, in the first edition of Barry 1805, in Headrick's edition of 1808, and in the Kirkwall edition published by Peace in 1867; but in the last the Note in English about the Husbandry of Orkney, afterwards specially referred to, is disjoined, though it is stated that it occurs at the end of the *Descriptio*.

It is not yet known who *Jo. Ben* was. The name, which is once given as *Johannis Ben*, has been accepted by some as a contraction for John Bellenden, the translator of Boece, and the dates may be regarded as suiting. But this is nothing more than a guess. Bellenden, as secretary of the Earl of Angus, was implicated in the detaining of James V. at Falkland against the Monarch's will, and he may have fled to Orkney in 1528 and been resident there in 1529, but of this there is no proof.

From internal evidence, the writer of the *Descriptio* seems to have been a Priest, but, if he was an ordinary Priest serving an Orkney chapel, it is scarcely probable that he would have written Latin with freedom, nor is it likely that a settled Priest would have been able to visit so many of the islands.

J. R. Tudor in his *Orkneys and Shetland*, 1883, p. 672, gives a list of his authorities, and among them he has:— '*Bellenden John. Descriptio . . . per me, Jo. Ben . . .*' with a reference to Headrick's edition of Barry's *Orkney* (1808), but Headrick nowhere says that *Jo. Ben* stands for *John Bellenden*.

Barry himself does not appear to have had any doubt as to the full name being *Ben*. Writing of Deerness, he says,—‘To confirm this tradition we have the decided testimony of an *author* who himself lived [1529] for some time at least in this country.’ The footnote to this is: ‘Ben. MSS., Adv. Lib. Edin.’ See Barry’s ‘Orkney,’ 1805, p. 283.

It has been suggested that *Jo. Ben* may stand for John Benston or Beinston, who was appointed co-adjutor to Edward Bishop of Orkney on the 24th of April 1524, but it is recorded that he died on the 9th of April 1526, when his successor was appointed—that is, three years before the *Descriptio* was written (see Maziere Brady’s *Episcopal Succession*, vol. i. pp. 150-151). Benston was buried in St. Salvator’s College, St. Andrews (*Hist. MSS. Commission, 5th Report*, Ap. p. 639). His name is not in Keith’s Catalogue.

There was a Bishop James Ben, Bene, Bane, Bennet or Biort in Scotland (see *Dictionary of National Biography*), but he cannot be the author of the *Descriptio* as he died in 1332. The name *Ben*, however, is thus shown to be very old in Scotland, as old probably as the occurrence of men with Fair Hair where Gaelic was the language.

The following is Sibbald’s entry of *Jo. Ben*’s *Descriptio*, at p. 25 of his undated *Repertory*:—‘John Ben. John Bane a resident in the Orkney Isles, *anno* 1529 wrott a description of them in Latine MS. extant one sheet and a halfe.’ This mention of the *size* seems to indicate that Sibbald had seen the original, but of course the size may have been reported to him.

There is a copy of the Description in the Sibbald MSS. in the Advocates’ Library, with the press-mark 33.3.20, which is believed to be a transcript in the handwriting of Sir Robert Sibbald.

In 1711 Sibbald published *The Description of Orkney and Zetland* (Edin. Fol.). Only four pages, written by Robert Monteith, 1633, are given to Orkney. *Jo. Ben* is not men-



tioned. Nor is he mentioned by Sibbald in his *Admonitio de Atlante Scotico* (1683), when giving a list of the Manuscripts and Prints that he had collected to aid him in preparing his projected Scottish Atlas. It is not known, therefore, at what time Jo. Ben's *Descriptio* became known to Sibbald, but it is almost certain that it was not known to him in 1683.

The *Descriptio* by Ben also appears in the Balfour MSS. in the Advocates' Library, with the press-mark 33.2.3. This transcript appears to be in Sir James Balfour's own handwriting.

There are thus in the Advocates' Library two transcripts of *Jo. Ben* in manuscript. One of them, said to be in the script of Sibbald, does not contain the short additional Note in English *Of the Husbandry used by the Orchadians* that is given by Barry as appearing at the end of the MS. in the Library from which he copied. Barry, therefore, did not copy from this Sibbald transcript. But he might have copied from the Balfour transcript, so far at least as the Note referred to is concerned, for Balfour gives it at the end. Barry, however, says that the script of the Note in the MS. from which he copied is 'plainly' by 'another hand,' that is, it is not written by the hand that wrote the body of the MS. This, however, is not the case in the Balfour transcript. There is no change of handwriting there. It may be held to follow that Barry did not copy from either of these two transcripts, and that a third *Jo. Ben* in MS. existed when Barry wrote, and perhaps still exists somewhere—in the Advocates' Library, or possibly elsewhere. If so, it might, if seen, disclose something that would lead to the identification of *Jo. Ben*.

It is possible that the Rev. Dr. Barry, when writing his *History of Orkney* (1805), was allowed to take home with him on loan, out of the Advocates' Library, the original *Jo. Ben*, and that he may have failed to return it. This would be impossible in times at all recent, but in the early years of last century it is thought that such a thing could have happened.

We know, indeed, that the Jo. Ben MS. was regarded by Dalyell as having recently disappeared from the Library when he wrote his *Darker Superstitions of Scotland* in 1835. At p. 83 he says: 'This work [Jo. Ben's MS.] has been lost within 4 or 5 years.'

In 1835 James Maidment printed thirty-five copies of *Poetical Descriptions of Orkney* (1652), which he found in a volume of Miscellaneous MS. Poems in the Advocates' Library with the press-mark Jac. 5.7.26; but that volume is not now in the Library, though the volumes preceding and following it are there. The volume containing *Poetical Descriptions of Orkney* might perhaps contain descriptions of Orkney that were not in verse, and among these may have been the original Description by Jo. Ben, but we have no knowledge now of whether this Description was or was not in the missing volume.

Barry made great use of Ben in compiling his *History*. The 1529 Description was by no means a *curio* to him. It was a much quoted source of information in his hands. A transcript of course would have given him the information he wanted, but he may have obtained the original on loan. In that case it may have been lost in Orkney.

It lately became known that a manuscript copy of Jo. Ben *in Latin* had been offered for sale in May last in Stromness, and was described as not looking modern. A successful effort has been made to get possession of this copy. An examination of it shows that its script is not that of the early part of the sixteenth century. Though clearly not recent, it need not be more than a hundred years old. It contains the Note in English on Orkney Husbandry, which the *Descriptio* copied by Barry also contained. There is not the slightest evidence anywhere about it that it had ever been in the Advocates' Library. The differences between it and Barry's print are numerous, but not of an important nature. Altogether it cannot be regarded as the missing Jo. Ben MS., but it is just possible that it may be

a transcript prepared for Barry, in which case the original would not have been given to him on loan.

It does not appear that more can be said about Jo. Ben. Indeed all that is known has been said. Perhaps the attention here drawn to this very early Description of a part of Scotland may lead to some additional knowledge regarding it. The mere earliness of the Description gives it much interest. The date on all the known transcripts and prints is 1529, and it has never been suggested that this is erroneous. Its interest, however, largely depends on its character as a record of observation, set out in homely Latin in as formal and systematic a fashion as if it had been written in the twentieth instead of the sixteenth century. Dean Donald Monro's *Description of the Western Isles of Scotland*, 1549, is its only rival in date and character. All other early topographical accounts of Scotland are little more than chance occurrences in writings having a quite different purpose. After Monro comes Nicolay d'Arferville's *Navigation round Scotland with James V.*, 1583; then comes Fynes Moryson, 1598; and then Timothy Pont, 1604-8, who made '*The First Topographical Survey of Scotland*' (C. G. Cash, *Scottish Geographical Magazine*, vol. xvii., p. 399, 1901), and who was the widest traveller in Scotland that has lived, and the best single original delineator of its topography that it has ever had.

It is no mean distinction to head the list of Scottish Topographers. *Jo. Ben* may be called the earliest, and *Tim Pont* the richest and best—odd names both.

For the Descriptions given in this volume, Macfarlane, as in the case of the previous volumes (see p. vi, vol. II.), has been largely indebted to Sibbald. With the exception of one or two articles, the whole of this volume is practically taken from the Sibbald MSS. 33.5.15 in the Advocates' Library.



## GROUPING OF CONTRIBUTIONS.

## LIST OF ARTICLES THE AUTHORS OF WHICH ARE NAMED.

A short Relation . . . by Mr. Matthew Mackaile. (P. 1.)

Fragment of a letter . . . by Mr. Matthew Mackaile. (P. 7.)

Current of the Tides about the Orcades, by Mr. Matthew Mackaile. (P. 10.)

Extracts of Letters, by Mr. Matthew Mackaile. (Pp. 11-13.)

Extract of a Letter, by Dr. Miln. (P. 15.)

Extracts of Several Letters, by Sir George Mackenzie of Tarbat. (P. 17.)

Some Hints for the Horticulture of Scotland, by Dr. J. Beal. (P. 20.)

Observations made in Scotland, by Sir George Mackenzie of Tarbat. (P. 21.)

The Making of Malt in Scotland, by Sir Robert Moray. (P. 25.)

A Description of the Island of Shetland, by Captain John Smith. (P. 60.)

Account of the Law and Government of Scotland, by Sir George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh. (P. 70.)

Answers to Queries concerning Caithness, by Mr. William Dundas. (P. 82.)

Survey of the Town of Aberdeen, by Bailie Skene. (P. 87.)

Epigrams on the Town of Aberdeen and Elogies of other Burrows of Scotland, by Dr. Arthur Johnston. (P. 91.)

Cure of Mad People at the Well of Struthill, by Mr. Forsyth. (P. 91.)

Citations Concerning the Scots out of Roman Authors, by Lord Newbaith. (P. 92.)

Account anent Galloway, by Provost Euart. (P. 93.)

Curiosities of Nature, by Lady Mary Gordon. (P. 93.)

Relation anent Corstorphine, by Lord Newbaith. (P. 93.)

Observations of the High Water at Leith, by Captain Collins. (P. 93.)

The Sherifffdom of Renfrew, by Schaw of Greenock and Mr. James Montgomerie of Weitlands. (P. 125.)

The Sherifffdom of Wigtoun, by Sir Andrew Agnew and David Dumbar, of Baildoon. (P. 127.)

The Sherifffdom of Lanark, by Sir Wm. Baillie of Lamington and Wm. Baillie of Carphin. (P. 131.)

The Sherifffdom of Roxburgh, by Sir Wm. Scot of Harden and Andrew Ker of Sinlaws. (P. 135.)

The Sherifffdom of Selkirk, by Wm. Eliot of Stobbs and Walter Scott of Arkiltoun. (P. 138.)

Account of the Curiosities at Dumfries, by Dr. Archibald. (P. 185.)

Description of Stormont, Gourie and parts of Angus, by J. A. (P. 221.)

The Sherifffdom of Merns, by Mr. John Keith. (P. 236.)

Information anent the Shire of Forfar, by [John] Ouchterlony of Guinde. (P. 244.)

A Description of Zetland, by John Marr. (P. 248.)

Two Latin Monuments in Glasgow College Library, by Mr. W. Hamilton of Orbeston. (P. 255.)

Genealogies of the Chief Clans of the Isles, by Dean Monro. (P. 259.)

Description of the Western Isles, by Dean Monro. (P. 262.)

Description of the Orkney Islands, by Jo. Ben. (P. 302.)

ANONYMOUS ARTICLES, THE AUTHORS OF WHICH ARE GIVEN  
ELSEWHERE.

Ode to the Earl of Errol (p. 13), given in by Mr. Alexr. Hay, Apothecary at Edinburgh (Sibbald MS., 33.5.15).

Account of Hirta and Rona (p. 28) given to Sir Robert Sibbald by Sir Geo. Mackenzie of Tarbat (*Misc. Scotica*, vol. ii.).

Account of Mines and Minerals of Scotland (p. 30) by Stephen Atkinson (Bannatyne Club, 1825).

Another Memorandum of the Minerals of Scotland (p. 55) by Robert Seton (Cochran-Patrick, *Records of Mining*, p. xxii).

Account of Sutherland. (P. 57.) Given in by Mr. Duglass, a Gentleman (Sibbald MS., 33.5.15).

The Burgh of Haddington. (P. 65.) 'From the Magistrates y<sup>r</sup>of' (Sibbald, as above).

With regard to the other articles which make up this volume, although very considerable search has been made, the authorship of them has not been discovered.

#### LIST OF DATED ARTICLES.

Mackaile's Letters to Sir Robert Sibbald. (Pp. 7 and 11.) February and March 1683.

Mackaile's Account of a Woman that was seven years with Child, and his Observations on Cattle Disease in Caithness. (P. 12.) March 1683.

Miln's Letter to Sir Andrew Balfour. (P. 15.) March 1683.

Sir Geo. Mackenzie's Letters to Mr. James Gregory. (P. 17.) 1675.

Beal's Hints on the Horticulture of Scotland. (P. 20.) 1675.

Sir George Mackenzie's Letter to Mr. James Gregory. (P. 21.) 1675.

Letter concerning a man of a strange imitating nature. (P. 24.) February 167 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Sir Robt. Moray's Account of making of Malt. (P. 25.) 1678.

Captain John Smith's description of Shetland. (P. 60.) 1670.

Skene's Survey of the Town of Aberdeen. (P. 87.) 1685.

Forsyth's relation regarding the well of Struthill. (P. 91.) March 1668.

The Sherifffdom of Roxburgh. (P. 135.) December 1649.



The Sherifffdom of Selkirk. (P. 138.) December 1649.

Latin Monuments. (P. 255.) 1695.

Monro's Western Isles. (P. 262.) 1549.

Ben's Orkney. (P. 302.) 1529.

ARTICLES PRINTED ELSEWHERE.

A short relation (p. 1) in Appendix to Barry's *Orkney*, 1867, pp. 404-409.

Hirta and Rona (p. 28) in Dean Monro's *Western Isles*, 1774; also in *Miscellanea Scotica*, vol. ii.

Account of Mines and Minerals (p. 30) in Atkinson's *History of Gold Mynes in Scotland*, 1619. Bannatyne Club, 1825.

Memorandum of Minerals (p. 54) in Cochran-Patrick's *Early Records of Mining in Scotland*, 1878, p. xxvi, and in Atkinson's *History*, Appendix No. III.

Another Memorandum (p. 55) in Cochran-Patrick, p. xxii, and in Atkinson's *History*, Appendix No. I.

Description of Shetland (p. 60) in Captain John Smith's *England's Improvement Revived*. 1670.

Law and Government of Scotland (p. 70) in Sir George Mackenzie's *Institutes*. First printed, 1684.

Genealogies of the Chief Clans (p. 259), along with Dean Monro's *Western Isles*. Edinr. 1774.

Monro's *Western Isles*. (P. 262.) Several times printed. Edinburgh 1774 and 1805; Glasgow 1884.

Ben's Orkney (p. 302), in Appendix to Barry's *Orkney Islands*. 1867.

The Husbandrie used by the Orchadians (p. 313), in Appendix to Barry's *Orkney Islands*, 1867, p. 402.

REMARKS ON SOME OF THE SEPARATE DESCRIPTIONS.

LETTER WRITTEN FROM ABERDEEN. (P. 24.)

In the Account of 'a man of a strange imitating nature,' as printed in the *Philosophical Transactions* for the year

1677, an additional paragraph, extending to ten lines, occurs between the two paragraphs given in this volume.

MINES AND MINERALS IN SCOTLAND. (P. 30.)

This Account of Mines and Minerals in Scotland, from a MS. belonging to Colonel Borthwick, has evidently been copied by Macfarlane from the Sibbald MS., 33.5.15, pp. 27-50. Sibbald again, in copying from the MS. given to him by Colonel Borthwick, appears to have confined himself to extracting only such parts of the Account as relate to Minerals found in Scotland, and the mining operations carried on there, leaving out the parts referring to mining in England, etc. The original MS. (33.2.6, Adv. Lib.) has for its title 'The Discoverie and Historie of the Mynes in Scotland, by Mr. Atcheson, who wrought in them.' It is a folio of fifty leaves, and was given to Sibbald in 1683, when he was collecting 'Papers and informations in order to the Description of Scotland.' This MS. was printed in full by the Bannatyne Club in 1825, the author's name being there given as 'Stephen Atkinson.'

Sir Bevis Bulmer. (P. 44.) He 'penned a Book of all his Acts, Works, and Devices. He named it Bulmer's Skill; it was written, not printed.' It does not appear that this work was ever printed, and if the MS. still exists, its place of deposit has not been discovered.

Knight of the Golden Mines. (Pp. 45, 46.) With regard to this scheme for carrying on the adventure, the following paragraph from the preface to Atkinson may fitly be quoted: 'This measure (the opening of the Secrets of the Earth—the Gold Mines of Scotland) was to be accomplished only by "his Majesty's Plott," communicated in an audience to Sir Bevis, to move twenty-four gentlemen of England, of sufficient land, to disburse £300 each by creating them "for ever Knights of the Golden Mynes, or Golden Knights"—a truly notable device worthy of King James.'

It appears (p. 47) that only one knight, Sir John Cleypool, was created, 'for he had ventured with Mr. Bulmer before 500 lib. sterl. at the Gold Mines in Scotland.'

MEMORANDUM OF THE MINERALS. (P. 54.)

The two last paragraphs of this Memorandum are not given by Cochran-Patrick in his *Records of Mining in Scotland*.

ANOTHER MEMORANDUM. (P. 55.)

According to Cochran-Patrick in his *Records of Mining in Scotland*, this Memorandum 'was written sometime during the reign of James v., and is entitled Ane Memorandum left by Robert Seton, commonly designed of Mexico, anent the Metals of Scotland, especially gold.'

SHETLAND. (P. 60.)

This account of Shetland is printed in *England's Improvement revived, in Six Books*, by Captain John Smith, London, 1670. The sixth book of this work contains a 'Description of the Islands of Orkney and Shetland with the manner and way of the Hollanders fishing and trading in those seas and islands.' The description of Shetland begins at p. 253. The last two paragraphs as given by Macfarlane, while conveying the same information, are somewhat differently expressed in Captain Smith's book.

LAW AND GOVERNMENT OF SCOTLAND. (P. 70.)

The first five titles of *The Institutes of the Law of Scotland*, by Sir George Mackenzie, first printed in 1684, make up what is here given. The narrative in some parts differs slightly from the print as to mode of expression, but not as to facts.

ABERDEEN. (P. 87.)

What is here given by Macfarlane is only chap. vii. of the



Survey of the Town of Aberdeen. A full account of the Survey, as well as the Epigrams on the Town, and the Elogies on the other Burghs of Scotland, will be found in the Sibbald MS. 33.5.15, pp. 83-117. It is not easy to understand why Macfarlane's transcriber, who evidently copied chap. vii. from the Sibbald MS., did not include the whole Survey, as also all the Epigrams and Elogies. One reason may have been that the whole of this matter was already in print, having been printed in Aberdeen in 1685, under the title, 'A succinct Survey of the famous city of Aberdeen, with its Situation, Description, Antiquity, Fidelity, and Loyalty to their Sovereignes. As also the gracious Rewards conferred thereon, and the signal evidences of Honour put upon many Chief Magistrats thereof. With a Catalogue of them since the City was burned for Loyalty, about the year 1330. Together with the Epigrams of Arthur Johnstoun, Doctor of Medicin, upon the said city, and severall other of the Principall Royall-Burghs in this Ancient Kingdom of Scotland: Translated into English by I. B. By a Zealous Lover of Bon-Accord ΦΙΛΟΠΟΛΙΤΕΙΟΥΤΣ. Aberdeen. Printed by John Forbes, 1685.' The Survey and Epigrams formed part of a larger work entitled 'Memorialls for the Government of the Royall Burghs of Scotland.' The Author was Alexander Skene of Newtyle, sometime a bailie of Aberdeen. (See Edmond's *Aberdeen Printers*, p. 136.) The Epigrams were in print even earlier than 1685, having first appeared in an edition of Johnston's works published in Middelburg in 1642. For full information regarding these Epigrams the reader is referred to vol. ii. of *Musa Latina Aberdonensis*, edited by the late Principal Geddes, for the New Spalding Club, 1895.

KIRKCUDBRIGHT. (P. 185.)

The Description, of which this is the beginning, has already been printed in vol. ii. pp. 128-132.

## THE SHIRE OF FORFAR. (P. 244.)

These Notes by Sir Robert Sibbald are intended as additions to and corrections of the information supplied by Ochterlony of Guinde, as printed in vol. II. of the *Collections*, pp. 21-51. The words preceding the bracket—)—are given from the already printed 'Information,' to indicate where the additions or corrections should come in.

## MELROSE ABBEY. (P. 162.)

The old inscription here given has long proved a puzzling one. Mr. MacGregor Chalmers, however, has published a very carefully prepared facsimile of it in *Scots Lore*, p. 13; and in *A Scots Mediæval Architect*, 1895, p. 11.

## NOTES

## PARISH CHURCH FABRICS.

1. Duthill. 'The Bands of the Kirk doors are very rare, made after the manner of a Tree casting out its branches and covering the whole Door after the manner of needle-work.' (P. 241.)

2. Haddington. 'Within the Walls of that Old Church toward the East end thereof standeth a stone altar of curious Workmanship about two ells in height.' (P. 65.)

3. Tweed-dale. Water of Lyne. 'Upon this Water are three pretty little churches covered with slate.' (P. 145.)

4. Berwick—Lauder. 'There is built in this Burgh lately by the Duke of Lauderdale, a weel contrived handsom Church, as it were consisting of four Isles, with a large steeple rising in the middle thereof.' (P. 174.)

## FAIRS.

1. Sutherland, Dornoch. 'St. Gilbert his Fair,' 'St. Bar his Fair,' 'St. Margarits Fair,' and 'St. Bernard his Fair.' 'Every one of these Fairs continues for the space of three days.' (P. 104.)

2. Sutherland, Golspi. 'St. Andrew his Fair.' (P. 104.)

3. Sutherland, Creigh. 'St. Teavnecks Fair.' (P. 104.)

4. Sutherland, Rogart. 'St. Callen his Fair.' (P. 104.)

5. Sutherland, Lairg. 'St. Minrie his Fair.' (P. 104.)

6. Sutherland, Clyne. 'St. Aloyne his Fair.' (P. 104.)

7. Sutherland. 'St. Carden his Fair,' at Kilmaly and at Loth. (P. 104.)



8. Sutherland, Kildonnand. 'St. Donnand his Fair.' (P. 104.)

## DEDICATIONS.

1. Angus, Glams. 'Sanct Alured.' (P. 95.)

2. Sutherland, Maridell. 'A chappel dedicate to St. Ninian.' (P. 99.)

3. Sutherland, Wester Helmesdale. 'A chapel called St. John's Chapel.' (P. 99.)

4. Sutherland, Golspie. 'A Chappel dedicate to St. Andrew.' (P. 99.)

5. Sutherland, Strathbroray. 'A chappel dedicate to St. Colomb.' (P. 99.)

6. Pittenweem. 'In this Island [May] there is a Chappel called St. Adrian's Chappell where that saint . . . was murdered by the Danes and buried.' (P. 220.)

7. Orkney. Damsay. 'There is a Church in this island is dedicated to the Virgin Mary.' (Pp. 307, 318.)

8. Orkney. Hara. 'There is a large church dedicated to St. Mary, commonly called the Lady of Grace.' (Pp. 309, 320.)

## PLACE-NAMES.

1. Shetland. 'By the Norvegians it is called Yeltland, because in old time the Inhabitants here made a kind of course Cloth, named Yelt, which was carried to Norway and sold there.' (P. 248.)

2. Dumfries. 'So called from the Freez-well beside it.' (P. 186.)

3. Sanquhar. 'So dominated from Sanctus Quarus, who lived here.' (P. 198.)

4. Penpont. 'It is denominate Penpont from a Penny payed at this place for building and upholding of a Wooden Bridge over Nith betwixt Penpont and Morton long since ruined, near to a Village called Thornhill.' (P. 202.)

5. Peterhead. 'Called in old Writs Peter-Eugy.' (P. 228.)

6. Dunotir. From 'Dun, a Fort, O, Low or laich, and Tir a Countrey which is together, The Fort in the Low Countrey.' (P. 232.)

7. Merns, Clochnaben. 'Signifies, as some say, a White Stone.' (P. 237.)

8. Bute. 'The Castle of Kames, quhilk Kames in Erische is alsmeikell as to say in English the Bay Castle.' (P. 264.)

9. Orkney. Sanday. 'So called as if it were the Sandie island.' (Pp. 303, 314.)

10. Orkney. Stronsay. 'So called as if the Streams ile.' (Pp. 303, 315.)

11. Orkney. Shapinshay. 'The Shipping ile.' (Pp. 304, 316.)

12. Orkney. Westray. 'The West ile.' (Pp. 305, 316.)

13. Orkney. Papa Westray. 'The little West ile.' (Pp. 305, 316.)

14. Orkney. Faray. 'As if you said fair island (the pleasant ile).' (Pp. 305, 316.)

15. Orkney. Egilischay. 'As if you may say the kirks of the islands (the kirk ile).' (Pp. 306, 317.)

16. Orkney. Rowsay. 'As if you may say the island of Ronald.' (Pp. 306, 317.)

17. Orkney. Enhallow. 'As you may say the Holy Island.' (Pp. 306, 317.)

18. Orkney. Pomona. 'So called as if it were the middle of the apple.' (Pp. 307, 318.)

19. Orkney. Cavay. 'As if it were the cheese island.' (Pp. 311, 322.)

20. 'Ellan na Neache, that is in Englische the Horse Ile guid for horse.' (P. 280.)

#### LAKES AND RIVERS THAT DO NOT FREEZE.

1. 'A litle Lake in Strath-errick . . ., which never freezes all over, even in the most vehement frosts, before February;

but one nights frost thereafter, will freeze it all over, & two nights then will make the Ice of a very considerable thickness.' 'There was left no place to doubt the truth of the matter of fact.' (P. 18.)

2. Tarbut. 'Loch Monar, of a pretty largeness, steddily keeps the same method' [as No. 1]. (P. 18.)

3. Lake in Straglash at Glencarrich . . . 'in a bottom 'twixt the tops of a very high hill, so that the bottom itself is very high. This Lake never wants Ice on it in the middle, even in the hottest summer, though it thaws near the edges.' (P. 18.)

4. 'Our famous Lake Ness never freezes.' (P. 18.)

5. Sutherland. 'This River of Shin doth never freeze.'

#### NATURAL OBJECTS—ANIMALS, PLANTS, ETC.

1. Shetland. 'In several places here are good Falcons and each year His Majesties Falconer repairing thither receiveth their Brood.' (P. 251.)

2. Sutherland. Forrests 'full of red Deer and Roes, Wolfs. . . .' (P. 99.)

3. Sutherland. 'In the Diri More there is a Hill called Arkill, all the Deer that are bred therein or haunt within the bounds of that hill have forked tails three inches long whereby they are easily known and discerned from all other Deer.' (P. 99.)

4. Tweddale. Holmswater. 'Upon the head of this fertile Water, above Glenkirk, is a mountain called Fiendsfell before-mentioned, the Eagle hath nestled past memory of man.' (P. 152.)

5. Selkirk. St. Mary Lochs. 'There is also taken in thir Lochs a little Fish called by the Countrey people Red waimbs. It is about the bigness of an Herring, and the belly of it wholly red. It is only to be found about Michaelmass and that only in the little stream that runneth betwixt the two Lochs but

not seen at any other time or in any other part of the Lochs. Yet at that season the Countrey people with Plaids sewed together like a net, have taken such store of them, that they carried them home and salted them up in Vessels for the food of their families.' (P. 165.)

6. Dumfries, Lochmaben loch. 'Where the Fishes called Venaces & Gevenaces are talked of nowhere else in our Countrey. They are pleasant white Fishes.' (P. 187.)

7. Dumfries. 'Contiguous unto this Loch [Lochmaben] are seven large Lochs, all which have the same Fishes [Venaces]. . . . The Fishes resemble Whittings in colour, tast & figure, only being a little more dry.' (P. 187.)

8. Buchan. Foverly. 'Eagles build in the Craigs of Pennan.' (P. 227.)

9. Buchan. Pitsligo. 'Some few years ago there was seen two Mermaids by Mr. Alex<sup>r</sup>. Robertson Pitsligo's Chaplain an English man and another person.' (P. 228.)

10. Ila. Banks of Gyinord. 'Upon the quhilke bankes upon the sea lyes Infinit Selcheis Whilks are slayne with doges learnit to the same effect.' (P. 271.)

11. Renfrew. 'The Inhabitants hereof at Greenock, Gurock, Innerkep, and Newark, making the greatest number of fishers. The Fishing of Herrings on all accounts hath for many years been the most noted of any in Scotland or about it. the Fish that enter this Firth of Clide, being larger, fairer, firmer, of a better tast, and taking better with the salt than any other, and more valued both fresh and salted, at home and abroad then any other the Kingdom affords, the number likewise being incredibly great. . . . There have been reckoned 2500 Last which comes to 3750 Tun of Herrings made and salted and exported in a year, beside vast quantities which are consumed within the Countrey.' 'Five or six hundred Boats have been seen together in one place at the Take. . . . The Herrings will sometime continue till Dec<sup>r</sup> and January from June or July.' (Pp. 211 and 212.)



12. Renfrew. 'Pearls found in Water of White Cart about Paslay and above it for three miles.' (P. 212.)

13. Ile Bwya Moir. 'Ane falcon nest.' (P. 288.)

14. Ile Lingay. 'A Falcon nest.' (P. 285.)

15. Ile Kannay. 'A Falcon Nest.' (P. 281.)

16. St. Kilda. 'In this fair Ile is . . . Falcon nests.' (P. 292.)

17. Orkney, North Ronaldsay. 'There is a large rock distant from the land half a mile by name Selchkerry, where sea fowl live and build their nests. On that rock the monsters before mentioned, when the tide flows, ascend to the top, but on its ebbing they fall into a well, where by no force can they go out. There is no exit; the peasantry mutually grumbling amongst themselves at delays coming in the way, draw near to the rock with large, hard sticks, but at first the monsters eyeing them with dread and gnashing their teeth with rage, strive to get out of the way with wide-open mouth, then they attack with all their strength and voluntarily carry on the combat, and if the first shall escape without injury, all the other (Selches) attack the men with their teeth, but if the first shall fall and die, all the others take to flight, and are easily captured, and I have seen sixty taken at once.' (Pp. 302, 313.)

18. Orkney, Hoy. 'White hares are here and are taken with dogs.' (Pp. 312, 322.)

19. 'There are many wild Catts in Southerland.' (P. 104.)

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

1. Orkney, Sanday. 'Laymen here have their shoes made out of seal-skins, drawn together with a latchet called in the vernacular Riffings.' (Pp. 303, 315.)

2. Orkney, Egilschay. 'St. Magnus was born in this island, and was educated from infancy, and gave a house to his nurse, viz. one messuage of land, where she built a chapel, in which she made a vault in the ground, and a couch, table, bed, and

other necessary things for a house out of the stones, but it was afterwards destroyed . . . nevertheless the household things still remain.' (Pp. 306, 317.)

3. Orkney, Damsay. 'The church in this island is dedicated to the Virgin Mary, to which pregnant women oftentimes go on pilgrimage.' (Pp. 307, 318.)

4. Orkney, Damsay. 'Sterile women are here, and if they shall become pregnant, they never bring forth with life.' (Pp. 307, 318.)

5. Orkney, Deerness. On a rock 'there is a chapel which is called the Bairns of Burgh. Hither out of various islands, men, youths, boys, old men, innumerable servants flock together, but having come, with naked feet . . . praying they ascend, where none except one can come to the chapel at one time: there is there a fountain pure and sparkling, which indeed is wonderful: then the men with bended knees, and clasped hands, distrusting that there is a god, supplicate the Bairns of Burgh with many incantations, throwing stones and water behind their backs, and walking twice or thrice round the chapel. Having finished their prayers, they return home affirming that they have performed their vows. Here they do not worship God purely.' (Pp. 307, 318.)

6. Orkney, St. Olaf. 'Women here are given to excess in carnal pleasure, I think thus so on account of the abundance of fish.' (Pp. 308, 319.)

7. Orkney, Stenhouse. 'There on a little hill near the lake in a sepulchre were found the bones of a man, which indeed were connected together, and were fourteen feet in length, as the author said, and money was found under the head of the dead man in that place; and I indeed saw the sepulchre.' (Pp. 308, 319.)

8. Orkney, Hoy. 'Between which [two mountains] there is a stone worthy of admiration, it is large and high, being made by a giant and his wife. One stone is hollowed out, in which there is a bed very artfully made in the stone for the man and

wife. At the time of hollowing out the stone the woman was pregnant as the bed testifies, for that part of the stone in which the wife lay has the likeness of a pregnant belly. In the stone a pillow was made with two hollows out of the rising of the stone, nevertheless they are not joined by any tenacious matter, but it is one.' (Pp. 312, 323.)

9. 'When they want ink, they take the root of this *Iris palustris lutea* (yellow Water flower de Luce), and infuse it twenty-four [hours] in clear fountain water, others boyl it a little. The water will not be tinged to any height. Then they take a rough white Pebble, and rub it continually in the water on a knife or any piece of clean steel; & in less than an hours time, the water will become very black, and tolerable good Ink. This I oft practised.' (P. 23.)

10. . 'When the Deer are wounded, they ly on a certain Herb, . . . and by its vertue, the bleeding is staunched & the wound healed. I did take a quantity of it, & reduced it to a salve, with Wax & butter. Its effect was that it healed too suddenly, so that I durst not adventure to use it in any deep wound: But for superficial scars, it hath a very sudden operation.' I find the herb to be '*Asphodelus Lancastriæ verus* of Johnstoun, or the Lancashire Asphodill.' Sir George Mackenzie *Phil. Trans.*, vol. x., No. 117, 1875, p. 396. (P. 23.)

11. 'Tis very ordinary to find Molucco beans on the shore of the Lewes.' (P. 23.)

12. A married Shetland couple 'both lean persons,' had 'between them two 33 children.' 'Many of them were Twins.' (P. 65.)

13. 'The sheep [Shetland] ordinarily bring forth two or thrie at a time.' (P. 65.)

14. Shetland. 'There is a Hillock beside Schalldister in Whalsey, whereupon if a Mariners Compass, be set, it will so much vary that the North point will turn to the South; but remove it a foot hence, or a very little distance, and it will

keep its true pointing. 'The like is observed in Fettle on the Chapell-Wall of Old Staye.' (P. 252.)

15. Aberdeen. 'The Town hath set up at every entry of the Town, seats of hewn stone for the accommodation of old men and women going to horse, which is . . . a comely thing.' (P. 89.)

16. Sutherland. In the Gardens of Dunrobin 'abundance of good Tobaco.' (P. 105.)

17. Midlothian. 'To the south of Libertoun Kirk there is a Wellspring which sends up with the Water an Oyl, or rather a Balsam reasonable thick and fat. This Balsam is gathered and preserved by the Heritors 10 moneths of the Year, and is a sovereign cure for wrests Akings, &c.' (P. 122.)

18. Haddington. 'Custome of the Bell-man's going through the Town with the Handbell and after tinkling of the same, to pronounce a Rhime willing the Inhabitants to guard against fire; and this is done every night at nine of the clock between Hallow tide & Candlemass.' (P. 66.)

19. Teviotdale. Water of Rule. 'Rule Hospital for Lepers.' (P. 158.)

20. Dunotir, Long Gallery. 'A stone in the midst of the wall, taken out of Adrian's wall.' (Pp. 233 and 239.)

21. 'At the shore of Sky lyes ane Ile callit Pabay . . . a maine shelter for theives and cut-throats.' (P. 283.)

22. Shetland. 'I bought for my own use, and the victualling of the ship sent to London, three Oxen for 3<sup>lb</sup> & at another time four Oxen for 5<sup>lb</sup> Which were fat, and about the bigness of the small sort of Cattel we have in England. There were also fat sheep sold for 2<sup>s</sup> 8<sup>d</sup> and 2<sup>s</sup> 6<sup>d</sup> per sheep.' (P. 62.)

23. Shetland. 'The fleet [of Hollanders Busses] consisted of 1500 sail, and there were about 20 Wasters . . . carrying about 30 Guns a peice, being the Convoys of the Fleet Busses which said Busses were of the burden of about 80 Tun.' (P. 64.)

24. Shetland. 'There were also a small Fleet of Dogger



Boats . . . of the burden of 60 Tun and upwards which did fish only with hooks and Lines for Ling and Cod.' (P. 64.)

25. Lewes, Pigmies Ile. 'The ancients . . . sayes that the saids Pigmeis has been Eirdit thair. Maney men of diverse Countreys hes delvit upe deiplie the flure of the litle kirk, and I myselve amanges the leave, and hes found in it deepe under the Erthe certaine baines . . . of wonderfull litle quantity, allegit to be the baines of the saids Pigmeis quhilk may be lykly according to sundrey historeys . . . bot I leave this far of it to the Ancients of Lewis.' (P. 292.)

26. Aberdeen. 'One would not have heard the Meanest Oath in the streets on a Mercat day, though there would have been several thousands of Countrey & Towns people on the streets.' (P. 91.)

27. Raarsay. 'At the North end . . . layes ane Ile callit Ronay . . . quyet for fostering of theives, ruggars, and reivars.' (P. 284.)

28. St. Kilda. McCloid of Herry's steward, at his yearly visit to Herta, 'uses to take ane maske of malt ther with a masking fatt and makes his malt and ere the fat be ready, the commons of the town both men and weemen and Bairnes puts their hands in the fatt and findis it sweit, and greyns after the sweitness of it, quhill they leave naither wirt nor draffe unsupped out ther, quharwith baith men women and bairnes were deid drunken sua that they could not stand upon their feett.' (P. 291.)

29. Pabay Ile. 'Quherein also Mac-cleod of the Lewis ussit to dwell, quhen he wald be quyit or yit fearit.' (P. 299.)

#### SUPERSTITIONS.

1. Tullachcorume. 'In old there frequented this Family a Spirit called Meg Mulloch. It appeared like a little Boy, and in dark nights would hold a candle before the Goodman, and shew him the way home, and if the Goodwife would not come

to bed, it would cast her in beyond him and if she refused to bring what he desired, it would cast it before him.' (P. 243.)

2. Aberdeen. 'The Minister hath called the men, who conveyed that woman, before her Session, and upon Weddens-day last, they appeared befoure our Presbytery. All of them, being foure, . . . did freely confess, that they had taken that woman to the Well [of Struthhill], that they had stayed two nights at an house hard by the Well, that the first night they did bind her twice to a stone at the Well, but she came into the house to them being loosed without their help. The second night they bound her over again to that same stone, & she returned loosed. And they declare also, that she was very mad, before they took her to the Well, & since that time, she is working & sober in her wits.' (P. 91.)

3. Penpont. 'In the bounds of this land of Eccles there is a Loch called the Dowloch, of old resorted unto with much superstition, as medicinal both for men and beasts and that with such ceremonies as are shrewdly suspected to have been begun with Witchcraft; and increased afterward by magical directions for bringing of a Cloth or somewhat that did relate to the bodies of men and women and a Shackle or Teather belonging to a Cow or Horse; and these being cast into the Loch, if they did float, it was taken for a good Omen of recovery, and a part of the water carried to the Patient, though to remote Places, without saluting or speaking to any they met by the way. But if they did sink, the recovery of the party was hopeless. This practice was of late much curbed and restrained.' (P. 203.)

4. Ronay. 'Within this Ile there is ane Chapell callit St. Ronay's Chapell, unto quhilk chapell as the Ancient of the Countrey alledges they leave ane spaide and ane shuill quhen any man deis, and upon the morow findes the place of the grave markit with ane spaid as they alledge.' (P. 301.)

## BIRTH AND BURIAL-PLACES.

1. Haddington. 'In the southwest end of the Village [Nun-gate] is the house where John Knox was said to be born.' (P. 67.)

2. Haddington. 'John Major was borne at Glegorne.' (P. 67.)

3. Tweddale, Drumelzear. 'Here is the remarkable place where the Prophet Merlin is said to have been buried at a Sauch bush near a Burn called Powsayl.' (P. 153.)

4. Egilschay. 'St. Magnus was born in this Island.' (Pp. 306, 317.)

## GOLD MINES.

1. Gold Mines. Twenty-four gentlemen 'to disburse 300 lib sterlin each man in moneys or victuals for maintenance of the Gold mines in Scotland; for which Disbursment each man to have the honour of knighthood bestowed upon him, and so for ever to be called The Knight of the Golden Mines, or the Golden Knight.' (Pp. 45 and 46.)

2. Gold mines. 'Only one knight was made, called Sir John Cleypool.' (P. 47.)

In editing this third volume of Macfarlane's *Geographical Collections* Sir Arthur Mitchell, with the sanction of the Council, has had the assistance of Mr. J. T. Clark, on whom the work has very largely fallen. But Sir Arthur Mitchell gave some assistance, and therefore, at Mr. Clark's desire, his name appears as Joint-Editor on the title-page. Indeed, Mr. Clark insisted on its having the first place, and unwillingly consented to the appearance of his own name there at all.

ARTHUR MITCHELL.

JAMES TOSHACH CLARK.





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## CORRIGENDA. VOLUME II.

Page 632, line 3, *for* [Charters] *read* [The Paper Mills, now Peffermill].

Page 632, line 16, *for* Monks *read* Nuns.



NOTES.—1. *A Numeral on the margin (all through the book) shows the page of the manuscript which is reached where it occurs.*

2. *The footnotes occur in the manuscript, unless they are marked as inserted by the Editor.*

## COLLECTIONS of PAPERS and INFORMATION In order to the DESCRIPTION of SCOTLAND.

A short RELATION of the most considerable things in the  
ORKNEY ISLANDS by Mr. MATTHEW MACKAILE  
Apothecarie at Aberdeen.

It is very probable that the Inhabitants of the Orcades of old did only speak Noords or rude Danish; but now there are only three or four Parishes (especially upon the Mainland or Pomona;) wherein that language is spoken and chiefly when they are at their own houses, but all speak the Scots language, as the rest of the Commons do.

The common people, though rude and ignorant, are very subtile and sagacious, and capable to learn. They do excell all people for navigation in small Boats, with 4 or 6 Oars and one or two sails; which is evident from the little prejudice they sustain in going from one Island to another, when the tide runneth most impetuously. The present Earl of Morton informed me that about 1643 he had a Regiment of Orkney-men, which was inferiour to none in the army. They are necessitate to use litle boats, which the sailers must constantly draw without the floud-mark, because they have no Harbours or Keys, though every Island hath at least, one good Rode.

Untill the year [1614] the Earles and Bishops lands were runrig'd through Orkney and Zetland, the former having two and the later one; But then Bishop Law and the Chapter did resign all to the King, who did appoint the Bishop his rent to



be payed out of four or five Parishes in the Mainland and two or three Islands.

In every Island almost, where there is a valley by the sea-side, there is also a freshwater Lake, as was at the Town of Kirkwall where at the end of the Wall dividing the fresh from the salt water (like an artificial Bulwark, as it is also in all other such places) they did cut ; that the fresh water might run into the sea, which ever since doth flow into, and ebb out of it, where the ships do ly very securely.

In this town is a very stately cathedral, having three very good Bells, which fell to the ground, the wooden cover of the steeple being set on fire by thunder, in the year 1666 or 1667.

The Products of those Islands are only black Oats, common barley, coney-skins, Fish-oil, and butter ; which last the Tenants being obliged to pay by weight, without respect to its goodness, when they make it, they put a hote stone into the churn, that they may get much of the butter, and in a short time, which maketh it soon become rancide. They afterward put it up in barrells, and because some do put in a considerable quantity of dry salt to make it weigh well, they peirce it in severall places with a Wimble for discovering the cheat.

They carry their Victual ordinarily to Zetland, (in which Islands there groweth not so much every year as would maintain the Inhabitants three months) or Norway and sometimes to Leith. It is sold by weight, and that which is equivalent to a Boll, they call a Meel. viz.       pounds, which is half as much again in quantity as a boll, but of the same Rate ; and a Meel of their Malt will afford no more good Ale than a Boll of Malt growing in the south.

Because of the land, (excepting the parish of Hara in the west end and broadest part of the Mainland and far from the sea) is dung'd with sea Ware, the Ale is sharp, and all strangers for the first moneth or six weeks are troubled with a litle Diarrhoea, wherein is no hazard.

They gather the sea-ware (which is frequently and copiously cast out by the sea) into heaps, which being putrified affordeth a very bad smell and many Insects, which the starlings do feed upon : and therefore it is ordinary to see hundreds of those birds upon each heap.

All the Islands are high and rocky excepting Sanda and Burra.

The Inhabitants at the west end of the Main, and at the east, but especially those in Copinsha, purchase a great many feathers by taking the sea-fowls from off the high Rocks, letting down a man with a strong Rope about his midle, and he throweth the birds into the boat attending below. The height and steepness of those rocks are incredible, but by those who have seen them.

Sometimes very big Whales will be put on shore. The Laird of Mains, then Heritour of Burra, got a great ball of Spermaceti cast out of the sea upon one of his Islands, which he sent to London, and got considerably for it.

In the year 1664, a merchant in Kirkwall having sold by retail several barrels of whale-oil, when the last of them was half spent, a woman regrated to him, that she had got from his man, very bad and thick oil, wherewith she could not get her wool greased. He having told me of this, and letting me see some of it, I lent him my Press, whereby, putting it in a linen bag, he did separate the Oil from that which is called Sperma Ceti, whereof he got two or three pounds. It having been long amongst the Oil, had contracted a very rancid smell and brounish colour, neither of which qualities I knew how to remove; and therefore he sold it at Edinburgh for 12' or a shilling the ounce.

From hence it is evident, that concret hath gott a wrong name. Moreover it is not every sort of Whales, which affordeth that substance, which is altogether sulphureous and inflamable.

Those Islands abound with wild fowls of all sorts as Moor-fowls, Plovers, Doves, which make their nests in the Rocks, Swans, Ducks, and Geese of several sorts and particular Cleck Geese, which come thither in the end of harvest, and go away immediately before the spring Yet Monteith of Egilsha <sup>4</sup>. informed me, that one year they did hatch their Eggs in his Holme, which confirmed me in my misbelieving that these Geese are generate out of Trees: for I have not only seen an old and torn tree full of those shells like to musiles, wherein they are said to be found, but also fresh stern Posts of ships,

which no man would believe to have been six moneths wrackt.

But they have no Patridges at all, nor ordinary black Crows (only in the four years of my abode there, I saw once three of them three miles west from the Town), but abundance of those which have black heads and wings with gray bodies. They have also many Ravens, which first pick out the eyes of Lambs and then kill them.

There are no foxes nor hares; only I was informed that about eighty years ago, there were several either black or white hares upon the two great mountains in Choye, betwixt which amongst the heather, much Juniper affording few if any ripe Berries, some Bourtrees, Birks, Rauntrees do grow. but when they become so big, as to be usefull for boats, the Inhabitants make Pins of them.

Many of the Marishes have the *salix humilis latifolia*; and at the eastend of the Main and head of Deersound at Campstoun, there is a litle wood, (about two pair of Butts in length and one broad, and as tall as a man) of the ordinary *salix angustifolia* or *Vimineae*.

Near to the town are a few whins, which the Earl of Orkney caused plant. When I was there 1664; Arthur Buchanan of Sound inclosed a litle ground, but the Broom-seed did never appear above ground.

In the Bishop's Garden, which is in the town, are some Apple and Cherry-trees which in a extraordinary hot year will produce Cherries a little red about Lammas.

5. Several Gentlemen have planted Ashes and Plains in their Gardens; but whatsoever groweth higher than the Dikes, fadeth the next winter; so you can never see them taller than the Dikes, save in the summer. It were worth the disquisition how this cometh to pass, seing trees do grow so well in Norway, which for the most part, is more northerly.

All the Islands are well fired, by reason of the abundance of Moss-ground, Sanda and North Ronaldsha excepted, wherein are no Peats at all; but the Inhabitants bring them from Etha, (betwixt which Islands runneth a most impetuous current) or the little Island beside it called the Calf of Etha, wherein the Earl of Carrick son to the Earle of Orkney, built

five salt pans, because the Peats there are little inferiour to coals for weight, hardness and burning well.

In January 1665, the frost and snow continued 14 days, the like whereof none then alive had seen there.

The Horses are litle and go all barefoot; unless the Gentlemen put shoes upon the horses, upon which they ride themselves.

The Kine and Sheep are also little, but very good, two or three places excepted, where they and the Conies do eat seaweare, which maketh their tallow a little brownish and also altereth their tast.

There are many Eagles, especially at the west end of the Main and in Choye. I was very credibly informed that an Eagle did take up a swaddled Infant a month old, which the mother had laid down untill she went to the back of the Peat-stack at Houton-head, & carried it to Choye viz. four miles, which being discovered by a traveller who heard the lamentations of the mother, four men went presently thither in a boat, and knowing the Eagles nest, found the child without any prejudice done to it.

There are also many Hawks; but the best is that of the fair Isle lying thirty miles from Orkney, and as far from Zetland, so that his flight is that long.

From the top of the eastmost mountain in Choye, about one afternoon for ten or twelve days, and an houres time, in the midle of June or July the sun shining, there appeareth a great light, like to that of the sun reflected from a large Mirrour, to any standing at the Bon or Chieff house of Choye, which is upon the Northwest corner of the Isle & two miles distant from the top of the Mountain, to which the Laird of Halcro then Heritour there, had sent severall times, men, to search the place reflecting the light, but they could find nothing extraordinary which Halcro told myself.

At the foot of this Mountain I did see a very large four-corner'd freestone lying altogether above the ground, and under it runneth a little stripe of water not a foot broad. There are no extraordinary big stones near to it, neither the appearance of any Quarry out of which it was digged. Yet it is so big, that having a round hole in the upper side, I went



down thereby and found two Beds hewed out with Irons, and a little Trunce betwix them, the one being for a man, alike wide from end to end, and the other for a woman, being much wider in the middle, that it might hold her belly, when with child. It doth most resemble the cabin of a small ship.

At Deerness and in Gremsie were two Lead-mines of old. But now Gremsie affordeth only slates for thatching of houses.

I did never see bigger Artichocks than there; where also Carrots, Parsnips, &c. do grow to great bigness; and I was informed by the owner, that at Birza, he had once a cabbage stock which weighed thirty two pounds.

In Egilsha and Thiefs-holme, so called, because of old the Gibbet stood there, is found a groff sort of sand whitish and like Corall in shape. In Thiefs-holme I found of it not only whitish but also another sort very redish, and about an inch long. The Inhabitants take of this sand, which is in Egilsha, and do mix it with Lime brought from Forth, then make an  
7. heap of it till the next year; after which they plaister with it their houses without, which preserveth them much and long from the injuries of rain.

In Deersound and about the Island Damsay, are Oysters, which are taken at a low water, by peircing them with spits of Iron, as they ly amongst the Rocks.

Bees are so rare there, that a young man in the end of April stopt the skep (which a Lady had taken thither from Angus) with a peice of a Peat. About eight days thereafter the Laird going to look after them, found them all dead. His family being convened, he inquired, who had done it. The actor did confidently answer, that upon such a fair day he did it; because they were all flying away.

About Lammas the Inhabitants do sometimes send a boat or two 40 miles west to an Island called the Stack, (which is most like to the Bass, and lyeth also 40 miles north from Stranaver) where they get abundance of Solan-Geese; and this is the place, to which those which build in the Bass do all go after August or September, from which they return again in the Spring.

Near to this, is another Isle called Selch-Skerrie, to which

they go also in the Winter when there is a strong Frost & Calm. There they kill many seales, which they find lying upon the Isle, and bring away their skins and fat.

The Ews in Orkney have ordinarily two Lambs, frequently three, and sometimes four. And I was informed by a Gentleman there, that one of his Ews did at one time bring forth four lambs, three whereof were lame in their forelegs and went on their knees.

To these may be added the relation of the Tides there,<sup>1</sup> whereof I informed Sir Robert Moray 1666 who caused insert it in the Philosophical Transactions Vol. 8 for the year 1673 Nov. 17, p. 6139, Numb. 98.

FRAGMENT of a LETTER written to SIR ROBERT SIBBALD of 8.  
Kips Doctor of Medicine by the said Mr. MATTHEW  
MACKAILE.

from Aberdeen Febr 1683.

My old Master Thomas Crawford explaining his Dictates to my comrades, and to me told us, that in the Castle of Dumbarton were two Wells near to one another, the one whereof affordeth fresh, the other salt water; as also that in that Rock was a Load-ston which occasioned the Carts of all the Compasses to turn towards it as ships went by. I do therefore entreat you to enquire after the certainty of the premises, and inform me of the same.

The honours and privileges of the HIGH  
CONSTABLE of the Kingdom of Scotland.

MOST SACRED SOVERAIGN,

According to the warrant and direction of the Commission granted by your Majesty unto us for trial taking of the Honours and Priviledges due to the Office of High Constable within this Kidgdom. We have kept sundry Diets and Meetings, where the noble Earl of Errol was present, and having heard and considered his Claim, and the Instructions

<sup>1</sup> Given on pp. 10, 11.—ED.

and Warrants produced by him for verifying the same and having likewise informed ourselves, what the Custome of other countreys allows in the like causes; We have here thought good to set down in Articles our opinion and Judgements concerning the said Priviledges, and therewithall to certify your Majesty of what we conceive to be due and belonging to the Constable in the Rights of his Office.

1. In all Royal Armies, the Constable, in the Right of his Office is Lieutenant General and Supream Officer next to the King. He has the command. Direction, and Government of the Army and is proper and sole Judge in all military affairs; in all actions concerning the Lieutenants, Captains, the Officers and Companies, enduring their Employment or Pay in the Kings service, and that according to the custom universally observed in other Countreys.

2. It appears, that in former times, here the Constable had precedency and place next unto the Chancellour with prelation to all other officers whatsoever. And so far as we can learn, they have been in possession of the same till of late years, that your Majesties dearest Father of ever blessed memory was pleased to prefer the late Earle of Dunbar to be High Thesaurer of this Kingdom and that your Majesties self sensyne advanced the late Earle of Montrose to be President of your Council and the Earle of Hadingtoun to be Lord Privy Seal, Ordaining them in the Right and Warrant of their Offices, to take place successively in order next unto the Chancellour. Likeas their successours in the saids Offices presently enjoy the same.

3. The Constable is the Supream Judge in matters of Riot, Disorder, Bloud and Slaughter committed within four miles of the King's person, or of the Parliam: or Council representing the Royal Authority in his Majesties absence; And that as well within the Court as without the same. And the trial and punishment of such Crimes and Offences is proper and due to the Constable and his Deputes; and the Provost or Bailies of that City or Burgh, and all other Juges within the bounds, where the saids Facts are committed, are obliged to rise, concur, fortify and assist the Constable and his Deputes in taking of the saids Malefactours, and to make

their Tolbooth patent for receiving them therein, as was clearly verified by production of Warrants granted by Your Majesties Predecessours for that effect. And which likewise appeared by exhibition of certain Bonds made by the town of Edinburgh for the time.

4. The Constable has the Charge and guarding of the King's Person in time of Parliam: or Convention; and the keeping of the Parliam:-house is committed unto the Constable and the Key therof delivered to him for that effect. Likeas he has the chieff command of all Guards and Men at 10. Armes attending the King's Person at such times.

5. In time of Parliament the Constable rides upon the Kings right, and carries a White Baston in token of command and accordingly sitteth apart from the rest of the Nobility upon the Kings right hand, having the honours lying beside him.

6. Before the thirteenth Parliament of King James the Second the Constable was in possession of taking all distress of all manner of goods bought or sold in the mercat, the time of Session, General Council, and Parliament, which being at that time discharged, untill the Constable should clear his right unto the same in the next Parliament following, We find that in the table of the unprinted Acts of the fourteenth Parliament there is mention made of an Act touching the taking of Stress by the Constable, but can find no Record thereof in the Register.

7. In the Original Charter granted by King Robert the first of glorious Memory to Gilbert Lord Hay first Constable of that name, and Ancestour to this Earle of Erroll, We find the Office of Constabulary to be given to him *cum Hostilagiis* as a main & principal Privilege belonging to the said Office; which being a word obsolete and out of use, and we not knowing perfectly the genuine sense and meaning thereof and whether the same doth import the Liberty and Right or a Lodging duly furnish'd and appointed within the Kings house, as many do suppose, or an house in every town where the King did or if there be any other Priviledge or Casualty thereby implied; We have in that regard forbore to deliver our Opinion concerning the same, as also anent the putting of the Crown upon the Kings head the time of the Coronation, which with sundry other Priviledges are claimed by the Con-



11. stable due unto him in the right of his Office, & whereof, as he alledges, his Predecessours have been prejudged, and the same brought in discontinuance by reason of the many Eclipses, which that Noble House fra time to time, has suffered upon the untimous death of the most part of his Predecessors, who, out of their zeal to the King's Service and Honour of their Countrey, did worthily end their days in battel, before they could gain the opportunity of time, or ripeness of years to settle their Estates or vindicate the liberties due unto their Place and Office. And thus for accompt of our Proceedings in the execution of the Commission direct by Your Majesty unto us, which We humbly offer unto Your Ma<sup>ties</sup> Royal Consideration Praying God to bless Your Majestie with many, long and happy years.

From Haliroodhouse the 27 of July 1631.

Sic subscribitur

Wintoun, Lithgow, Wigtoun, Napier, Arch:  
Achesone, Fletcher, Henryson, Duplin,  
W. Skeen, Th. Hope, Balmerinoch.

An ACCOUNT of the CURRENT of the TYDES about the ORCADES (mentioned before, p. 6) given in by Mr. MATTHEW MACKAILE, who had pass'd himself that way, and from him communicated to the Publisher of the Philosophical Transactions be the truly Honourable Sir Robert Moray, Knight, deceased, lately one of the Vice-Presidents of the R. Society, of which he had been President formerly; whose Death is no less deservedly than exceedingly lamented by all that knew his Worth, knowledge, Integrity, Prudence and Courage.

In Fairay-sound betwixt the Isles of Fairay and Ætha in Orkney, the sea runneth North East for the space of three

hours in Flowing and nine hours southwest in Ebbing. This is the course of the Tide only in the middle of the sound, which is but one mile broad.

The next Isle to Fairay, towards the southwest is Westra, which is an Isle, and about five miles in length, and three or four miles in breadth, upon the southEastsyde of this Island, within a mile to the shore, lyeth another little Isle, which is not <sup>12.</sup> half a mile in circumference. South and South west from these two Islands is Westra Frith, eight miles in breadth, running betwixt them, and the Isle called Pansa. Through this Firth the English ships do ordinarily pass in their course to Ireland.

Whilst the sea runneth from West to East in flowing, through this Westra Frith, there are no greater surges, than in any other place of the sea, and in a calm day, it is as smooth as any lake, though there is constantly a great current in the Flux and Reflux of the sea. Yet at the southeast end of the forementioned little Island, the sea no sooner begins to run westward in Ebbing, but there beginneth a surge to appear which continually increaseth untill the Ebb be half spent; and afterwards it decreaseth untill it be low water, at which time there appeareth no such thing. East and West from this great surge there are some few lesser surges seen, which are gradually less towards the East and West after this manner.

I having occasion to pass that way, in a little boat; when we had passed over the Eastmost surges, and were beginning to ascend the biggest; upon the tenth of April, at on of the clock in the afternoon, the surge before us was so high that it intercepted the sight of the sun, and some degrees of the firmament above it. This surge is about a quarter of a mile in length. When there is any wind, which occasioneth the breaking of the tops of the surges, there is no passing that way. The current of the tide is so strong there, that there is no need of sails or of Oars, save only to direct the Boat, as doth the helm.

EXTRACT of a LETTER written from  
 ABERDEEN Mar. 5, 1683. by Mr. MATTHEW  
 MACKAILE Apothecare there to SIR RO.  
 SIBBALD of Kips Doctor of Medicine.

Three years ago, Mr. Patrick Clunies Minister at Week in Caithness informed me, that there was a Marish not far from  
 13. his house, out of which one might dig as many stones called thunderbolts, as they pleased, and gave me a very large one of them, which I believe I gave to Dr. Balfour.

Of a woman that was seven years with child and were brought to bed, the account whereof was written by the aforesaid Mr. MATTHEW MACKAILE in the Earl of Caithness his house January 1666 together with the following observations about the cattel in Caithness and communicated by him to the said Sir ROBERT SIBBALD in the above written Letter March 5, 1683.

A man in Caithness, to whom a woman had born a child, did afterward marry another woman, after which the man found himself impotent, which he regrated to a friend, who inquired if ever he had known another woman. He answered Yes. The person then advised him to go to that woman and renew his kindness, which he did, and begot the woman with child, which the church-session of Bower did challenge, and the man confessed to be his, as also the reason why he did it, after which he was no more impotent. But the woman lived with child seven year and was never brought to bed; her belly was so big, that she was necessitated to support it with a band, which was tyed about her neck. The greatest bigness was in one of her sides, which contained, as it were, a great Lump, which moved of itself. After seven years, she died, but was not opened, there being no chururgion near the place.

What is HEASTIE incident to the BEASTS in CATHNESS.

The Beasts in Cathness are often troubled with a Disease

which the people there call the Heastie, because it putteth them in a rage and killeth them suddenly. The apprehend it to come by Witchcraft, for if there be an exact search made in and about the houses belonging to the owners of the cattell that are thus distempered; there will be found lying together a litle bit of every part of such as is distempered; as a litle of the head, tongue, heart, lights, liver &c., which some <sup>14.</sup> take to the person whom they suspect, & plead with them, whereupon the Beast or Beasts recover; or they put them in the house of some of their neighbours, whose cattell immediately become sick, and their own recover. But if the Beast dy, when the people are taking off the skin, if any drop of the bloud of the beast did light upon man or woman, it immediately occasioneth a great Inflammation, swelling and pain in the place where it lighteth and killeth in few days.

Two women (the one nursing her first child), were touched by some of this bloud, and became immediately unwell. The bloud had lighted upon the nurse, the side of her nose, and occasioned a great Inflammation &c. The two women being in one house sent for some things to do them good, which a person of Honour sent to them. The Remedy was a drawing Plaister, which the nurse applied to her face, and in few days, it produced a suppuration, a litle below the place, where the bloud lighted, and at length cured the distemper. The other woman would not make use of the Plaister, but died after two or three dayes.

Some of the bloud lighted upon the nether Palpebra of another Woman, which occasioned the Inflammation &c which the strength of nature mastered: but ever since that Palpebra hangeth down upon her cheek and the inner red side of it is outmost.

### RELATION from the same hand at the dropping CAVE at SLANES.

The water there runneth through a lime-stone, which is whitish before it be burned; & what petrifyeth is only the sediment of it making a crust as that of Urine doth.



## 15. RELATION anent a LEAD-MINE in FIFE.

The Laird of Pitlour gave me two peices of Lead-Ore which seemeth to be very rich. The Mine, where it was found belongs to Broun of Finmont in a ground of his, upon the water of Ord within three miles of Kircaldie.

CARMINA de INSIGNIIS COMITIS ER-  
ROLLII, Haiorum Principis.

Carmina de Insigniis ComitIS ERROLLII Haiorum gentis  
Principis, et Magni Scotiæ Regni Constabularii &c.

Sanguineo stat utrinque Jugo par nobile Fratrū,  
Marte ferox, cultæ pacis et arte ferax.  
Sanguineum gestans triplex Insignia scutum,  
Ter celebris meriti digna Trophæa sui.  
Danorum de cæde rubent, numerusque duobus  
Cum Natis signat nobile stemma patrem.  
Expansis cristâ, pennis, stat Falco tenaci,  
Unge minax, oculis lyncæa celsa petens,  
Ut volucrum Falco fugat agmina, sic tribus Haya  
Sub victrix misit millia multa Jugum.  
Invictum servare Jugum Rex jussit ut hostes  
Ultrici subdunt huic sua colla jugo.  
Ut Comiti stabuli strictis datur ensis utrinque,  
Regis ad Imperium, præsidiumque Throni.

The same Lines as they are corrected by Mr. James Brown.

Sanguineo stat utrinque Jugo par nobile fratrum,  
Marte ferox, cultæ pacis et arte ferox.  
Sanguineum gestans triplex, Insignia scutum  
Ter celebris meriti digna Trophæa sui.  
Danorum de cæde rubent, numerusque, duobus  
Cum natis, signat nobile stemma, Patrem.  
Expansis cristâ Pennis, stat Falco tenaci  
Unque minax, oculis Lynceus, alta petens.  
Et falco ut volucrum fugat agmina, sic tribus Haya  
Victrix subjecit millia multa Jugo.  
Invictum servare Jugum Rex jussit ut hostes  
Ultrici subdant huic sua colla Jugo.  
Ut Comiti Stabuli, strictus datur ensis utrinque,  
Regis ad Imperium, Præsidiumque Throni.

CARMINA de INSIGNIIS COMITIS MARI-  
SCHALLI Kethrum gentis Principi, nec-  
non Scotiæ regni Magni Marischalli, &c.

Capreolus stat utrinque erecto corpore promptus,  
Et vigil huc illuc lumina cauta rotat ;  
Tresque metallifero palos Insignia scuto  
Fert, expugnati symbola certa loci.  
Principe parte auro, dehinc inferiore coruscans  
Argento, monstrat nobile Lemma Ducis :  
Namque paludatus prodibat ad agmina Chattus,  
Et trabeâ fulgens Induperator erat :  
Sanguine Romano primum rubuere, priusquam  
Puppe Cathanesios obtinuere sinus :  
Danorum tandem partis de strage trophæis,  
Fuste Marischalli nobiliore nitent.  
Scilicet ut Palus vallat munimina, fundat  
Ædes, a subitis insidiisque tegit,  
Sic Danis obstruxit iter, velut aggere Kethus,  
Fergusidûm invicto sic dedit esse throno.  
Hinc virtus duplicem, victrix quia vera, coronam  
Servatam ob Patriam, Regia dona refert.  
Provida et *δερκας* speculatur vertice Regem  
Neve Gregem posthac cæca pericla petant.

The last of these Distichs as it is corrected by Mr. James 17.  
Broun.

Provida quin *δορκας* speculatur vertice, Regem  
Neve Gregem posthac cæca pericla petant.

EXTRACT of a LETTER written from INVERURY  
Mar. 3. 1683, by Doctor MILN to Sir  
ANDREW BALFOUR, Physician in Ordinary  
to His Majesty, and by him communicated  
to Sir ROBERT SIBBALD of Kips, Doctor of  
Medicine.

SIR,—I beseech you, let Sir Robert Sibbald know that I  
have received his Queries, and wish that I could send him such  
information as he desires. But this place and the countrey  
hereabout affords but litle mater for a such a design: yet I  
shall not be wanting in what comes to my knowledge worthy  
his notice. All I can say at present of this place is only, that

it is a royal Burrow erected so by King Robert the Bruce, for having gained a Victory here, I think over the Cumins, of which Buchanan makes mention in his Chronicle in these termes. '*Hæc victoria ad Enneruriam parta, ut Regem morbo liberavit, ita rerum prospere gerendarum ei fuit Initium: quicquid enim ab eo die attentavit, ei feliciter cessit.*' If I can procure any thing worth sending, from any curious person here, I shall not fail either to send it, or oblige them to do so.

### ACCOUNT of METALS and MINERALS in SCOTLAND given by Colonell BORTHWICK.

At Castle-Campbell there is great quantity of sulphure; as likewise within sex miles of Dumbarten upon Clide-side, where there is a great deal of it lying upon the banks.

Alum is found in several places of Scotland.

The *Lapis Calaminaris* is found in Scotland, which mixt with copper makes Brass.

Gold is found in several places of Scotland; the most famous is Crawford-moor, where it was found by King James the 4th and King James the 5th, and is yet found by passing through searches, the earth and sand brought down with speats of rain. I have seen peices of it as big as a cherry. It is exceeding fine gold. The Ore as it was tryed at the Kings Mint at London, affordeth eleven parts of gold and the refuse was silver.

A place called Durisdeir is famous for gold.

Some report that at Clova at the head of Southesk some eight miles from Killimoor there is found gold and silver.

At the silver mines in West-Lothian there is found first a sulphure then lead and then silver.

Near Lintoun in Tweddale is found Lead and Silver.

At the silver mines in West Lothian there is found a sparr with green veins, which affords one of the highest and finest blew colours.

The copper mine at Aithree, which lyeth between Stirlin & Dumblane, affords off copper fifty of an hundreth of the Ore; Besides that, of silver to the value of 100 lib sterling. And to the value of 200 Lib sterlin it affords of Gold.

Three miles to Eastward of Aithree, amongst the Ochels upon the water of Alquharey, within two miles of the head of the water, there are many great stones found full of blew and green veins, which contain copper.

Upon the other side of the water, in Perthshire is found Cinaber the Matrix of Quicksilver. Cinaber is also found in several other places of Scotland.

There was lately found within four miles of Ed<sup>r</sup> upon Curry Water, in John Scot of Lamphoys ground copper-ore. I have seen the copper made of it.

Gold and Lead said to be found in the forest, Sir William Scots, bounds.

The Colonell shewed me likewise a peice of Lead-Ore found within four miles of Ed<sup>r</sup>. I suppose it be Catherhalls ground.

At Braids-Craigs, there is a stone with blew and green veins <sup>19</sup> found, which argues, there is copper there.

At Orok, about Bruntisland, it is said there is Amethyst found. I have seen a fine sort of Bastard-Diamonds found there.

At Erick-stone in the land of one Johnston of Newtown, one Seton, that had been in Mexico, found some metals of great value, after the washing of the earth, that was worn off a hill there by some water he set upon the roots of the hill.

The *Lapis Haematites* is also found in Scotland.

EXTRACT of SEVERAL LETTERS sent to the Publisher of the Transactions Philosophical from Edinburgh by the learned Mr. JAMES GREGORY, to whom they were written by that Intelligent Knight Sir GEORGE MACKENZY from Tarbut & insert in these Transactions. Vol. 10, Numb. 114, for the year 1675. May 24<sup>th</sup>, p. 307.

1. The Wind here, on the 21<sup>th</sup> of Dec<sup>r</sup> last, was extraordinary: it broke a standard-stone, that stood as an obelisk near an old church; which stone was about 12 foot high, 5



foot broad & near 2 foot thick. Whole woods were overturn'd & torn up from the root, though in a low scituation. It blew from the northwest, & of a long time the wind had continued Westerly. Jan. 16, 167 $\frac{4}{5}$ .

2. I had notice of a Phenomenon that I judged odd, and considerable searching into the nature of cold, which is. That there is a little Lake in Strath-errick on the Lord Lovets Lands, which never freezes all over, even in the most vehement frosts, before February; but one nights frost thereafter, will freeze it all over, & two nights then will make the Ice of a very considerable thickness. This I did inquire after very solicitously from the honestest & soberest of the adjoining Inhabitants & it was verified by so many, that there was left no place to doubt the truth of the matter of fact. I have since heard of two other Lakes, one of which is on lands belonging to myself called Loch Monar, of a pretty largeness, which steddily keeps the same method, & I have inquired after it by many, who have affirmed it to me on their own knowledge. There is another little Lake in Straglash at Glen-carrich on lands belonging to one Chissolm; the Lake lies in a bottom 'twixt the tops of a very high hill, so that the bottom itself is very high. This Lake never wants Ice on it in the middle, even in the hottest summer, though it thaws near the edges; And this Ice is found on it, though the sun by reason of the reflexion from the hills in that country, is very hot, and Lakes lying as high in the neighbourhood have no such Phenomenon. 'Tis observable also, that about the borders of this Lake the Grass keeps a continual verdure, as if it were in a constant spring and feeds & fattens beasts more in a week than any other grass doth in a fortnight. The matter of fact I have fully examined in both these; but to hit the cause, requires a better Philosopher than I am &c. February 8, 167 $\frac{4}{5}$ .

3. Our famous Lake Ness never freezes; but on the contrary in the violentest frosts, the greater clouds of steams do arise from it. And I remember that at two several times, I being at Inverness, walking in the evenings along the Bridge over the River Ness, a mist of those steams coming from the Lake & falling down to us over the River (for there was no

mist in any place thereabout, but on this Lake and River only) our hair became all white, like the whiteness of a hoare frost, but it was soft & warm; and this was in the midst of summer & in warm evenings. Last week I was speaking with Dr. George Makenzy who lives at Inverness, of this matter: He told me, that he observes Rosemary to continue in the Gardens about that Lakes side, notwithstanding the last Winters long & violent frosts, whereas a far less violent Winter ordinarily kills all the Rosemary, which is in Gardens that ly in warmer places & at the sea-side. And which is more, though I live near it, & in a better soyl & warmer scituation; yet any Winter more than ordinary cold kills<sup>21</sup>. my Rosemary, though covered over with straw & Litter. Whereas near Loch Ness, it remained good, though uncovered, in the last sharp Winter. Which he attributes, and I think on good ground, to the warmth occasioned by these steams that frequently arise from that Lake. Feb. 25, 167<sup>4</sup>/<sub>5</sub>.

4. Having in my former letters written of water, I shall yet add this of that subject. That in Glevelg at a place called Achignigliun, there is a litle rivolet, which so turns Holly into a greenish stone, that they ordinarily make moulds of it for casting of Balls for Fusees; and Tinkers that work in brass, make both their moulds & melting pots of it; & women their round Wharls for spinning. May it not be, that by the long infusion in water descending from hills, which perhaps abound in Marle, capable to be resolved into small particles by the constant washing of the water, May it not be, I say, that these little particles do intrude into the cleansed pores of the Holly, and so make up that soft stone: And anything ligneous remaining of the very hard timber, being all incrustated with this Marle, may it not thereby be guarded from the action of the fire. April 16, 1675.

SOME HINTS for the HORTICULTURE of SCOTLAND by way of letter imparted to the Publisher of the Philosophical Transactions by Dr. J. BEAL, & insert in the Transactions. Vol. 10, Numb. 116, for the year 1675. July 26, p. 361.

I had several times conference with Sir Rob. Moray B.M. (who was an honour to his Countrey, & a blessing to the place where he abode) concerning esculent & olitary Gardens & (under one) nurseries of fruit trees, and other usefull vegetables in Scotland. I represented that almost within my memory, they are become the chieff relieff of England; that 'tis lately found, that austere Fruits yeild the strong & sprightfull Liquor, which resembles the Wine of the Grape; that the return of gain from Gardens is great & speedy; Nurseries neither a chargeable nor a burthensome addition, but a congruous engagement of the multitudes to persevere in the noblest kind of Agriculture. Sir R. M. granted all that I said; and I am sure, that he acted and executed all that he could for the good of his own Countrey & for England, &c.

22. But, saith he, there are so many Rocks, and such bleak Winds in Scotland, that they can hardly draw in the same Yoke with England for Gardens & Orchards. I replied, that in Devon & Cornwall they fenced their Gardens & Orchards with Flanders furr. And tall Holly from the sea Winds, and they have lofty Firrs, and goodly pines in Scotland & New England (where the Winds are as keen, & the snow & frosts as deep, & as long lasting, as in many parts of Scotland) is yet full of fruitfull Orchards. And if Scotland be farther in the North, yet Norway is rich in Boscage; & the seeds of the Hemlock-tree, spruce & cedars from New England, Newfoundland & Virginia may perhaps rejoice in the exchange of the Northern America for the North of this Island. And Scotland may say *Non tam aversus equos nostro sol vertit ab orbe*. The sun affords them a longer summers day in the remotest North, than at Rome. And tis a point of good Philosophy, and

good Husbandry to find out, what vegetables are aptest to make the better by that advantage. And Scotland hath no need to borrow wit & Industry from their neighbours: Witness their Linnen trade, their Fishery, their Mines, their Arts, Artifices & Manufactures; some of these as beneficial to them, or soon may be so, as our famous and great staple-trade is, at this day, to England. *Comparatis comparandis*. Briefly the Summer-sun ariseth more early and shines as bright on St. Andrews, as on the Roman Capitol; & the Vatican is not so near to Uranoburg as is Edinburgh. And their flowry Philologers and learned Boetii, \*,<sup>1</sup> Buchanans, Barclays, and hundreds more never resigned their verdant Laurels to Politicians, Bembo's or other Cis-Alpines. Nor do they shrink from assisting the modern Restauration of solid real, & operative Philosophy. To come close to our business, this I told Sir R. M. I durst undertake, that when Edinburgh & their chiefs towns and universities shall plant Kitchen gardens, as we do now in England they shall receive their grateful reward the first year, & bear the charges of their Nurseries abundantly: & so hold on & within 7 years secure their posterity of the benefit, & delight themselves with the fruit of their pleasing labour. And thus one may drive on the Wheel, which a thousand hands cannot stop, when it is running on, & imploy thousands of poor at good work.

SOME OBSERVATIONS made in SCOTLAND by that <sup>23</sup>. ingenious Knight Sir GEORGE MACKENZIE, sent in a letter to Mr. JA. GREGORY, & by him communicated to the Publisher of the Philosophical Transactions & insert in Vol. 10. Numb. 117, for the year 1675, 26 7ber. p. 396.

SIR, Of Earths I have little to say; only one of our most ordinary soyls for Barley-land is an Earth digged & mixed with Beasts dung: In a place near my dwelling there is a

<sup>1</sup> Refers to a sidenote in the MS.: 'Hector Boetius, highly valued by Erasmus.'



plot of ground, less than one Acre, out of which, for these many years past, Earth hath been digged for the said use; and in two years time it will grow up again, & fill the excavated place so that it continually furnishes soyl for the adjacent lands. Another like I have in a farm belonging to myself, twenty miles distant from this, of the same nature & quality. Both are a stiff clayish Earth, of a dark colour & moist: both these places I have view'd these several years, & have discerned this truth: It will grow a foot high in two years. Nothing makes our land give greater increase of Barley than Sea Wrack (*Alga Marina*) but lands often used to this manure, yeilds but bad Oats, & small quantity, & the husks both of the barley & oats, that grow on such lands are thicker than those that grow on other lands, & these grains have also greater mixture of Darnel.

The increase that some places in our Isles do yeild is almost incredible considering the Climate & soyl. for some will ordinarily yeild sixteen or eighteen fold, as very honest & credible Farmers have often informed me from their continual experience: And most of those lands that yeild so well, are of a very sandy soyl, & only manured with sea wrack. I have a peice of land in Lochbroom Parish that yeilds continually every year plentiful Crops of Barley, without ever having so much as one load of Manure, or any kind of addition laid on it: And this it hath done past memory. I have seen the corn of it several years; nor doth the ground grow less, nor is it exhausted by yeilding such plenty of corn and straw, though it receives no addition. Whether it be that Rains wash down matter equivalent to Manure, from the adjacent hills, which yet cannot be discerned, though looked after; or whether its fertility proceeds from prolifick Exhalations from a subterraneous cause, I will not determine.

24. There are also some fields, that appear to be nothing else but a gathering of small Pebbles, insomuch that Earth cannot be well discerned amongst them. Yet do they yeild abundance of good corn especially of Barley; and more than contiguous lands, that are not stony. Whether this be from accidental heat contracted by the pressure of these stones; or from sulphureous salin emanations from them; which yet I

could never force out of them; or whether it be from the repercussion of the fermenting Exhalations that ascend, which they force into the portion of the Mould, that is mixt with them I leave to the Judicious to consider.

As for our herbs, I have nothing extraordinary. All I find here, are in history, excepting one, which grows on stony shoars: but because 'tis not by me, I will not venture to give you its description now, lest it should be too imperfect. One particular I took notice of, which perhaps is no novelty to you, as it is none to our Highlanders; but since it is to me, I shall relate it. When they want ink, they take the root of this *Iris palustris lutea* (yellow, Water flower de Luce) & infuse it twenty four [hours] in clear fountain water, others boyl it a little. The water will not be tinged to any height. Then they take a rough white Pebble; and rub it continually in the water on a knife or any peice of clean steel; & in less than an hours time, the water will become very black, and tolerable good Ink. This I oft practised.

Our Forresters alledge, that when Deer are wounded, they ly on a certain Herb, which grows plentifully in our Forrests; and that by its vertue, the bleeding is stanch'd, & the wound healed. I did take a quantity of it, & reduced it to a salve, with Wax & butter. Its effect was that it healed too suddenly, so that I durst not adventure to use it in any deep wound: But for superficial scars, it hath a very sudden operation. At that time I did not know this Herb by any name, but now I find it to be *Asphodelus Lancastriæ verus* of Johnstoun, or the Lancashire Asphodill.

I cannot omit to add here, that 'tis very ordinary to find Molucco beans on the shore of the Lewes, or other our Western Isles. They are found fast to the stalks, which the common people supposed to be sea-tangles, and laughed at me, when I<sup>25</sup> said, they were land beans. Which made [me] to write to the Earle of Seafort; whilst he lived in the Lewes, that I supposed these apparent Tangles were the ham of the beans, which by long lying in the sea, might acquire that likeness. His Lordship examined the matter & found it so. And he likewise sent to me a peice of Cabbage tree, that was found on that shore. It is observable, that the Kernels of these Nuts will be fresh

& sound, & the people make boxes for snuff of the Bean-husk. Now, considering the scituation of those Isles with respect to any place where Molucco beans grow, let the observers of Tides consider, what reciprocations must be imagined to adjust the Eastern and Western constant currents of the Main, with the wasting of these Beans on places that ly so far out of the road of any of the direct Tides: And if they grow only about the Molucco Isles, or in no place on this side the Æquator, it would seem more probable, that they came by the Northern passage, than any other way. And their freshness in the Kernel seem rather to have been kept in the cold Conservatory than in the warm baths of the other Progress.

Tarbut July 9, 1675.

EXTRACT of a LETTER written from Aberdeen, Febr. 17, 167 $\frac{5}{6}$  concerning a man of a strange Imitating nature, as also of several human Calculus's of an unusual bigness, insert in the 12 volume of the Philosophical Trasactions numb. 134, for the year 1677. p. 842.

SIR, I am very sensible of the great civility, wherewith you were pleased to entertain Mr. Scougall & me, when we waited on you last summer, and shall be ready, on all occasions, to give you that account you then desired of things Philosophical, that may occur here, to promote that noble design you have in hand. I remember we had then occasion to speak of a man in this Countrey very remarkable for somewhat peculiar in his temper, that inclines him to imitate unawares all the gestures & motions of those with whom he converseth. We then had never seen him ourselves. Since our return we were together at Strathbogie, where he dwells and notwithstanding all we had heard of him before, were somewhat surprized with the oddness of this Dotrel-quality. This Donald Monro, for that is his name, being a little old & very plain man, of a thin slender body, hath been subject to this infirmity, as he told  
26. us, from his very Infancy. He is very loathe to have it observed, and therefore casts down his eyes, when he walks in

the streets, and turns them aside, when he is in company. We had made several trials, before he perceived our design; and afterward had much ado to make him stay. We caressed him as much as we could, & had then the opportunity to observe, that he imitated not only the scratching of the head but also the wringing of the hands, wiping of the nose stretching forth of the arms &c And we needed not strain complement to persuade him to be covered: for he still put off & on as he saw us do, and all this with so exactness, & yet with such natural & unaffected air, that we could not so much as suspect he did it on design. When we held both his hands & caused another to make such motions, he pressed to get free: But when we would have known more particularly how he found himself affected, he could only give us this simple answer, That it vexed his heart & his brain.

Besides this, I took occasion lately to visit a poor Woman in the neighbouring Parish, who hath been of a long time sadly afflicted with the Gravel, & hath passed four stones of an unusual bigness; of which I have one by me, which though it be not the greatest of the four, is yet more than five inches about the one way, & four the other, which if you please, shall be sent you. They are all oval; the first and a part of the second were smooth; but the other two very rough; & the last the biggest, which being come away about Christmass last, was bloody on one side, when I saw it. This puts me in mind of that stone of a prodigious bigness, which was found last year in a Gentleman's bladder in this countrey after his decease, weighing two & thirty ounces I am Sir your humble servant,

GEO: GARDEN.

An ACCOUNT of the manner of making of MALT in Scotland by Sir ROBERT MORAY, insert in the 12 vol. of the Philosophical Transactions Numb. 142, for the Moneths of Decr., January & February 1678 p. 1069.

Malt is there made of no other Grain, but Barley. Whereof 27. there are two kinds one which hath four Rows of grains in the



Ear, the other two Rows. The first is the more commonly used; but the other makes the best Malt.

The more recently Barley hath been threshed, it makes the better Malt. But if it hath been threshed six weeks or upwards, it proves not good Malt; unless it be kept in one equal temper; wherof it easily fails, especially if it be kept up against a Wall: for that which lies in the midle of the heap is freshest; that which lies on the outsides & at the top is overdryed; that which is next the Wall shoots forth; & that which is at the bottom rots; so that when it comes to be made in Malt, that which is spoiled, does not come well as they call it, that is, never gets that mellow temper Malt ought to have, and so spoils all the rest. For thus some grains come well, some not at all, some half, & some too much.

The best way to preserve threshed barley long in good temper, is not to separate the Chaff from it. But as long as it is unthreshed it is always good. Brewers used to keep their Barley in large rooms, on boarded floors, laid about a foot in depth & so turned over, now & then with scoops.

Barley that hath been over-heated in the stacks or Barns, before it be separated from the straw, will never prove good for Malt, nor any other use. But, though it heat a little, after it is threshed & kept in the chaff, it will not be the worse, but rather the better for it: for then it will come the sooner; and more equally.

A mixture of Barley, that grew on several grounds, never proves good Malt, because it comes not equally, so that the best Barley to make Malt of, is that which grows in one field, and is kept & threst together.

Take then good Barley, newly threshed & well purged from the Chaff and putt hereof eight bolls, that is about six English Quarters in a stone Trough. Where let it infuse, till the Water be of a bright reddish colour; Which will be in about three days, more or less, according to ye moistness or dryness, smallness or bigness of the grain, season of the year, or temper of the Weather. In summer Malt never makes well. In winter it will need longer infusion than in the spring or autumn.

It may be known when steeped enough, by other marks

beside the colour of the Water; as the excessive swelling of the Grain: or if over steeped, by too much softness; being, when in the right temper, like that barley, which is prepared <sup>28.</sup> to make broth of; or the barley, called by some Urge Wonder.

When the Barley is sufficiently steeped, take it out of the trough & lay it on heaps, so let the Water drain from it. Then after two or three hours turn it with a scoop, and lay it in a new Heap about twenty or twenty four Inches deep. This Heap they call the Coming Heap. And in the managing of this heap aright, lies the greatest skill. In this Heap, it will ly fourty hours, more or less, according to the fore-mentioned qualities of the Grain &c. before it come to the right Temper of Malt; which that it may all do equally, is most to be desired.

Whilst it lies in this Heap, it is to be carefully looked to, after the first fifteen or sixteen hours. for about that time the Grains will begin to put forth the root, which when they have equally and fully done, the Malt must, within an hour after, be turned over with a scoop, otherwise the Grains will begin to put forth the blade or spire also; which by all means must be prevented, for hereby the Malt will be utterly spoil'd both as to pleasantness of tast and strength.

If the Malt come not equally, because that which lies in the middle being warmest, will usually come first, turn it over, so as the outmost may be inmost, and so leave it till all be come alike.

So soon as the Malt is sufficiently come, turn it over, & spread it to a depth not exceeding five or six inches. And by that time it is all spread out, begin and turn it over and over again, three or four times. Afterwards turn it over in like manner, once in four or five hours, making the Heap thicker by degrees & continuing so to do constantly for the space of forty eight hours at least.

This frequent turning of it over, cools, dries & deads the Grain, whereby it becomes mellow, melts easily in brewing and then separates entirely from the husk.

Then throw up the Malt into a Heap, as high as you can, where let it ly, till it grow as hot as your hand can endure it. which usually comes to pass, in some thirty hours space, This perfects the sweetness and mellowness of the Malt.

29. After the Malt is sufficiently heated, throw it abroad to cool, & turn it over again about six or eight after, & and then dry it upon the Kiln. Where, after one fire, which must serve for twenty four hours, give it another more slow, and if need be a third, for if the Malt be not thoroughly dryed, it cannot be well ground, neither will it dissolve well in the brewing, and the Ale it makes, will be red, bitter, & will not keep.

The best fewell is Peat. The next Charcoal made of Pitcoall or Anders. Heath, Broom & Furzes are naught. If there be not enough of one kind, burn the best first, for that gives the strongest impression, as to the tast.

AN ACCOUNT of the ISLES HIRTA &  
RONA given to me by the LORD REGISTER  
SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE of Tarbut, as he  
had it from intelligent persons dwelling on  
the place.

The Island of Hirta, of all the Isles about Scotland lyeth farthest out into the sea, is very mountainous & not accessible but by climbing. It is incredible, what number of fowls, frequent the rocks there; so far as one can see, the sea is covered with them, and when they rise, they darken the sky, they are so numerous. They are ordinarily caught this way: A man lies upon his back with a long Pole in his hand, & knocketh them down, as they fly over him. There be many sorts of these fowls, some of them of strange shapes, among which there is one they call the Gare-fowl, which is bigger than any Goose, and hath Eggs as big almost as those of the Ostrich. Amongst the other Commodities they export out of the Island, this is none of the meanest, they take the fat of these fowls that frequent the Island and stuff the stomach of this fowl with it, which they preserve by hanging it near the Chimney, where it is dryed with the smoke and they sell it to their neighbours on the Continent as a Remedy they use for aches and pains.

Their sheep upon that Island of Hirta are far different from all others, having long leggs, long horns, and instead of wool,

a blewish hair upon them, for the figure and description, it seems to approach in resemblance to the *Ovis Chilensis*, some natural Historians make mention of. Of the milk of these <sup>30.</sup> sheep, they make Butter, and a sort of cheese which my Lord Register saith, pleaseth his tast better then Hollands cheese. They have no salt there, but what they make by burning of seatangle which is very black. Their greatest trade is in feathers they sell and the exercise they affect most, is climbing of steep Rocks, he is the prettiest man who ventures upon the most inaccessible, though all they gain, is the Eggs of the Fowls, and the honour to dy, as many of their Ancestours, by breaking of their necks which Pliny observes of these people, which he calls Hyperborei.

The Island of Rona hath for many generations been inhabited by five families, which seldome exceed thirty souls in all. They have a kind of Commonwealth among them, in so far if any of them have more children than another, he that hath fewer, taketh from the other what makes his number equall, and the excrescence of above thirty souls is sent with the summer boat to the Lewes to the Earle of Seafort their Master, to whom they pay yearly some quantity of meal stiched up in sheepskins; and feathers of sea fowls. They have no felow for fire upon the Island, but by special providence of God, the sea yearly casts in so much timber as serves them. Their sheep there have Wool but of a blewish colour.

There is a Chappel in the midst of the Isle, where they meet twice or thrice a day. One of the families is hereditary Bedell, and the Master of that, stands at the Altar and prayeth the rest kneel upon their knees & join with him. Their Religion is the Romish Religion.

There is always one, who is Cheif and commands the rest, & they are so well satisfied with their condition, that they exceedingly bewaill the condition of these, as supernumerary, they must send out of the Island.



AN ACCOUNT of MINES & MINERALS in  
SCOTLAND Out of a Manuscript belonging to  
COLLONELL BORTHWICK.

The like Gold hath not often been seen or heard of to be gotten within Christendome, as these of Scotland tried & reported to be worth 76000 <sup>lib</sup> sterling per Tun.

In all these places following (to wit in Crawford moor & 32. Frier moor in Clidsdale, on Robert moor and Mannock Moor in Nidesdale, upon Glengaber Water in Henderland, with the forrest of Atrick, all which places are tryed by me) natural gold is to be found out, & you shall alwayes find skilfull seekers and discoverers thereof dwelling near unto these foresaid places, for to use the Trough or Skower; but not very perfit in the Buddle, nor any at all in the Art of Extracting.

Some of these laborious Scotsmen know the natural gold perfectly, and too well, I mean, that Gold gotten in Valleys, not upon solid places viz: upon high mountains & mosses: but they know only the gold in the remote places, which the Scripture speaketh of in Job the 28th Chapter, which the Vultures eye hath not seen.

They know also the Gold gotten upon the superficies of the Earth, upon the skirts of the high mountains, & on both the sides of the Cleuchs, & thus also it is gotten at the West Indies &c. as hereafter shall be proved, & by whom &c. Even these Precedents, if there were no more, were able to encourage either Governours, Superiours, Artists or industrious workmen, of what degree so ever they be, to presume as far, nay to attempt as much, as I have before enterprised in Scotland, hoping then to have received some acknowledgement from his Majesty, which I confess was promised but not performed: for God took away my friends unto his mercy, before they could do me the good which was promised. And thus was I forced to remain in distress till the Honourable Lord Willoughby my Master did pity me, and had some compassion upon me &c.

And now I purpose to dilate unto you, how or after what maner in times past near unto Rivers sides, within Combs &

Valleys, natural Gold hath been gotten in the Kingdom of Scotland upon the aforesaid Moors &c.

The vulgar sort of Scotsmen usually sought for it upon these Moors after a great rain, and after the Speat of Rain had run his course & this rain or force of water brought down no other Gold, than what before had been removed by the force of waves flouds, and that Gold was and is called superficial Gold to this day.

Even our Scots Gold, which is now found in Sterns or in <sup>32</sup>. grains and peices, did discend or was washed down in Valleys, Combs, Skirts of Hills or Cleuchs; even untill this present day it hath lien still & not removed, except after a great speat of rain, the force whereof doth break & wear the superficies of the Earth, but not the solid Earth after which the Scots men and women & children run to seek for it, and do find it still even untill this day. And thereby they find with it also the saxere stones in great abundance and also much of the Calaminar stones. but the sallineor stone is as small as the mustard seed; and some like meal and the sapphire stone in lumps & like unto fowls eyes, or birds eggs. And the strangest of all is this, there is found natural Gold linked fast unto the Sapphire stone, even as veins of Lead-ore & white sparrs do grow together &c.

But their usual manner is, when they seek for Gold in Combs & Valleys to frame or make a long seuch or scowring place into which they bring the stream of water, to scowr away the light earth from the heavy sandy earth; and to cull away the great stones from the heavy sand, which sand or heavy earth they scrape into their Trough or Tray, and by stirring it and washing the same often, there is found both rain-gold, flat gold pale gold and black gold: yet all these be natural gold.

And also all these are called perfect compacted gold made in the beginning of the world & ingendered with these stones aforesaid amongst Rocks & Craigs, without the help of sun, moon or stars.

I happened in my Scots Voyage on a book of records at Crawford John in Scotland, wherein was registered, that many poor Inhabitants there, were lately employed at work by Mr. Cornelius a Lapidary in London. This Cornelius was sent

thither to discover the golden bed or vein, at the charge of certain Merchants in London, who procured unto him Queen Elizabeths Signet unto the Kings Majesty that now is King of  
 33. England &c. then only of Scotland. At sight whereof it seemed, that he was forthwithall admitted to proceed with his Majesties favour and Consent of the Honourable Council of Scotland.

And then Cornelius went to view the said Mountains in Cliddesdale and Nidesdale, upon which Mountains he got a small tast of small Gold. This was a Whetstone to sharpen his knife upon, and this natural Gold tasted so sweet as the Honey, or Honeycomb in his mouth. And then he consulted with his friends at Edinburgh, and by his persuasions provoked them to adventure with him, shewing them first the natural Gold, which he called the temptable Gold, or alluring Gold. It was in sterner & some like unto Birds eyes and eggs. He compared it unto a womans eye, which enticeth her Joes into her bosom. and Cornelius so earnestly persuaded his late frequented friends in Scotland that he induced them to adventure also with him. And I remember in one place of that book he saith If there were such an evident token, or such an apparent shew of natural Gold, as this which then he shewed them, within any part of the Countrey where he was born being a German born, then the whole Countrey would confederate and not rest, til young & old that were able, be set to work thereat, and to discover this treasure house, from whence this Gold descended: and the people from ten years old unto ten times ten years old should work thereat; no charges whatsoever should be spared, till mountains and mosses were turned into Valleys & Dales, but this Treasure house should be discovered.

And where as now the Countrey of Scotland & England both are oppressed with poor people, which beg from door to door for want of imployment; and no man looketh unto it, and Idlemen and Souldiers, for want of imployment; are some forced to rob, some to steal & so come by an untimely end, whereas by labour others get bread rayment &c. And that some should dig or delve, some pick or hack, some wash and scour, untill Mountains & hills were turned to dales; and

some should turn Rivers, Brooks & Cleuchs from their courses & so to run over mountains; but that they would know from whence such a Precedent as this is, being natural Gold, doth come, some part whereof is gotten by me.

Upon whose instigation, his Scots friends hearkened unto <sup>34</sup>him and yeilded unto Cornelius. Whereupon five other Partners besides himself agreed together. A new Grant was procured unto those six Copartners of all the Gold and Silver Mines throughout the Kingdom of Scotland & the said Gold mines were divided amongst the six Partners as followeth viz:—

The Earle of Morton had ten parts.

Mr. Ro<sup>t</sup> Ballenden, then Secretary had ten parts.

Abraham Peterson a Dutchman at Edr. had ten parts.

James Reid a Burgess of Edr. had five parts.

And Cornelius reserved to himself & his London Friends which adventured with him also ten parts.

And they all consulted together, persuading sundry of their other friends & kinsfolk, & their families to adventure each of them a proportion of moneys, again to set upon & discover the Gold mines in Crawford moor & other Moors thereabouts; and so each man, according to his disbursements to have his part. And being all willing, they consented together: some brought corn, some victuals, & some malt or meal besides moneys and amongst them all 5000 lib. Scots.

And then Cornelius was chosen to govern & direct both artists & workmen about that business. But he nor they ever sought for it in solid places, but in Combs & Valleys where a long time before, it had lien, being washed down since the General Deluge. And Cornelius had the Broad Seal of Scotland & England for it, and was called the Superiour of His Majesties Gold mines. He had authority to punish offenders, he had a Commission to take up Workmen in England, by consent of the Honourable Council of England, to go with him to Scotland. And the noble Earle of Moray then Regent of Scotland did also animate and second him, so that Cornelius grew strong in men, and victual and good store of Gold.

And Cornelius was obliged by force and vertue of his Scots



Commission, to bring in all such Gold or Silver, as by any of them should be gotten, into his Majesties Minthouse at Edr.,  
 35. there to be coyned upon peril of his Majesties displeasure. At which time, within the space of 30 days, they caused to be conveyed unto the Kings Minthouse, half a stone weight of natural Gold, viz. 8 pound weight worth 450 sterling. And it is called Trone Weight: and a Scots Stone Weight is still 16 pound weight ther.

And the Workmen got gold sometime also by themselves of their own charge, with the toleration of the Superiour, and they sold the same gold for a Mark Sterling per ounce, called in Scotland eight pound Scots, and when they sold it at dearest, they had but twenty shillings Sterling per ounce weight thereof.

Cornelius had six score men at work in Valleys & Dales. He imployed both lads & lasses, idle men and women which before went a begging. He profited by their work, & they lived well and contented: and he bought their Gold, which they washed & scoured for a little money, even for a Mark Sterling, which now is worth 5 Marks sterling per ounce.

And about that time the Earle of Moray, being Regent, deceased, and then Cornelius was forced to renew his Commission & had his Grant from the Earle of Morton next Regent, who also obliged Cornelius to bring all such natural Gold, as he thereafter should get, unto the Minthouse at Edr, where it was afterwards coyned into 3<sup>lb</sup> sterling peices of an ounce weight each peice. Much Gold was then bought from the poor workmen for twenty shillings the ounce weight.

John Gibson of Crawfordtown yet liveth, who was a workman before, and now is a Washer or streamer for Gold in sundry places. He got much Gold in sterns, and feeling Gold, he had both great Gold like unto Birds eyes, and Birds eggs which he sold there for 20<sup>s</sup> sterling the ounce weight. And he is now, if he be alive 92 years of age: and he sware for a truth, that the greatest Gold that ever he got, was upon Glengaber  
 36. Water within the Forrest of Atrick and he sold it then for six shillings eight pennies sterling the ounce weight to the Earle of Morton.

In the same Book I read of one Abraham Grey, who was a

Dutchman, before that time dwelling in London. He was also registred therein and his works that he digged at the Gold mines. He brought with him certain Artsmen from England, & others of his own Countrey men unto Scotland, which were at London. Upon a certain intelligence, hearing so good a report of the Gold of Scotland, he sold much of his own goods, & therewith made a certain sum of money & procured others his Countrey men to adventure with him: & he went with authority to supply the said Gold mines in Scotland. This Abraham Grey hired many poor Inhabitants there as it is registered in that Book of Record, & he gave the poor men 4<sup>d</sup> sterling the day to find themselves therewith, which contented them as well as 12<sup>d</sup> doth content the English Workmen in these dayes.

He had plenty of victuals in his storehouse at Winlockhead, which now is in decay; he was supplied with all sorts of necessary tools; the Workmen washed & scowred in Valleys & Combs; he never sought the Mountains or Mosses upon high Hills for a solid place, nor for a bed or vein thereof.

And in these Valleys at Winlockhead, he got a good quantity of natural Gold; he payed all his Workmen weekly; & he lent to diverse men money before hand, as it is written in that Parchment book, saying, With this natural Gold gotten in Great beards time, (for so was he called, because of his great long Beard, which he could have bound about his midle) was made a very fair deep Bason, without any addition of any other Gold at Edr. in the Canogate Street. It was made by a Scotsman & contained by estimation within the brims thereof, an English Gallon of Liquor. The same Bason was of clean, neat, natural Gold. It was then filled up to the brim with coyned peices of Gold, called Unicorns which Bason & peices both were presented to the French King by the said Regent the Earle of Morton, who signified upon his honour, to the King saying My Lord, behold this Bason & all that therein is; it is natural Gold gotten within this Kingdom of Scotland by a Dutchman named Abraham Grey. Abraham Grey was standing by & affirmed it upon a solemn oath. But he said unto the said King that he thought it did ingender & increase within the earth & that he observed it so to do by the 37.

influence of the heavens. And he said, that it increased and grew more and more: but neither by the power of the sun, moon nor starrs, but by the omnipotent power of God as he thought: and then the Earl of Mortoun stood up saying I also believe, that it ingenders within the Earth, but only of these two Elements viz: the Water & the Earth; and that it is & was made perfect malleable Gold from the beginning by God the Creatour thereof but it was not, nor is it pure fine Gold, without any alay, as was Ophir Gold. But, said he, I am certain that all this Gold viz. the cup and all the peices therein are of natural Scots Gold without any other compound or addition.

My opinion<sup>1</sup> is and shall so continue, being sufficiently persuaded by an Instance thereof, that neither King, Prince, Superiour nor Governour within Christendom can produce either better natural Gold or the like to this I myself brought of late to His Majesty out of Scotland.

M<sup>r</sup> George Bowes an English Gentleman procured a Commission into Scotland unto the Gold mines and I happened on a book of his making in England. I compared the same, (having carried it with me into Scotland) with the report of the Countrey; and the Countreymen at Winlockhead, said It is so, and most true, that M<sup>r</sup> Bowes discovered a small Vein of Gold, which had much small gold in it, upon Winlockhead. But he sware all his Workmen to keep it secret, and never to disclose the same unto the King of Scotland nor his Council: for so he had promised to do at his departure from the Queen of England, if he found it. And M<sup>r</sup> Bowes by force and vertue of the Queens Letters to the Council of Scotland, had a new warrant granted from the Lords of Scotland, by vertue whereof he was suffered quietly to dig and delve, where he would, so it were after another fashion, than M<sup>r</sup> Bulmer & his men did before dig & delve.

And M<sup>r</sup> Bowes digged sundry shafts in solid places upon the Mountains on Robert moor at Winlockhead, & he oftentimes found good feeling Gold and much small Gold. And he gave a great part thereof away, ten or twelve ounces, to

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<sup>1</sup> 'One Atkinson's opinion' [sidenote in MS.].

make friends, unto Lords & owners of the ground; & he gave to merchants & Gentlemen in England as much more as before he had done in Scotland; and he kept many Workmen both 38. English and Scots & payed them with the same Gold.

He built dwellinghouses there for himself & his people, but none for his Scots Workmen. Others sought their Victuals & Lodgings far off from the said Work which was a hinderance, and the Workmen had every one store of gold. But Mr Bulmers men found little or none, but what they bought from Mr Bowes men, saying they sought to discover places fit for a Prince, not for a subject.

And when they had filled their purses, then he caused the said shaft to be filled up again, & swore his Agents and Workmen all to secrecy & to disclose the same upon their lives, whereunto they were forced & did so and most especially to keep it close from the King's Majesty & Councill of Scotland; & this was confessed by some of Mr Bowes chiefest servants since he died. And so shortly he did return to the Queens Majesty in England, unto whom in all secret manner he said, that the trust committed unto him by her Majesty, was performed and concealed saying that he had found out a small Vein thereof and Behold said he, and see of it. for this even all this is out of the same Vein. With that he shewed a long Purse full thereof & it was then admired at by all that saw, & it was valued to be worth sevenscore pounds sterling without melting, but he had before given much thereof away privily. This Purse had much of the salineers stone in it.

He said unto the Queens Majesty How long it will continue, Madam, I know not, but I have made it very sure, & hid it up till my next going thither.

Her Majesty liked well thereof, and kept it secret from all others as he said, giving thanks to Mr Bowes for his true service therein. And for that gift, she received it of him, but promised triply to reward it. & said that the next spring he should go again thither at her Majesties only charges, to seek for a greater Vein thereof, and commanded him to prepare himself so to do; that store might be had.

He went home rich to his own Countrey in the North of England where he dwelt. but unfortunately, in riding to see 39.



the Copper Works and Mines in Cumberland at Keswick, as he was going down into the deep Pits, the Ladder broke, and the Earth fell in upon him, and so he was bruised to death; & thus he left his life, and the Vein of Gold not since discovered in Scotland.

M<sup>r</sup> Daniel Heisister one of the Masters of the said Copper mines was then going down after him into the ground, & fell but a little way & hurt himself, but not unto death yet he was sore bruised with the fall of the same Ladder, but he escaped, praised be God therefore, I wrought with him since, and he told me it for a truth.

And then I<sup>1</sup> travelling further into the North parts, had certain intelligence thereof, hoping to have discovered that small Vein again. I was moved at my own adventure, to go & see if I could find out the same, which before M<sup>r</sup> Bowes had hid up. And I sought it diligently, but I could not get any of M<sup>r</sup> Bowes men, that there wrought before. And want of means to harrow that ground, which M<sup>r</sup> Bowes had turned up, made me depart from that place unto Short-cleuch-braes, to the same place where George Parkhead was slain with the fall of the Brae after a great Weet, & he was found three days after that and had good store of gold about him. He was alwayes before accounted a poor man, but he was buried better than any of his Kinred had been of long time before.

All the last Gold of Scotland, which I brought & presented unto the Kings Majesties own hands, in certain sundry places mingled with the Sappar, Calaminar, Saxere & salineer stones, was gotten at Short-cleuch-braes. And the other Gold which I had in sundry places, where I made sundry trials, I sent by my Cousin John Atkinson of Westminster to London. And M<sup>r</sup> John Moray of the Kings Bedchamber, had most of my Scots naturall Gold to keep, by his Majesties commandment. I never could get the same Gold again, nor see it, nor get any reasonable content for the same. I offered to put in  
40. security that it should be restored again to M<sup>r</sup> Moray so that he would be pleased to let it be but seen to Merchants of London, that had promised to adventure with me, for want whereof, as I think, they fell quite from me, excusing the

<sup>1</sup> 'Atkinson comes to Scotland' [sidenote in MS.].

cause thereof, and alledging that it is more fitting for Princes, than subjects. And therefore, said some of them to me, If thou wilt adventure in any other nation of a hotter climate, we will take better advice thereof, & we will both respect yourself & your knowledge: for we love to adventure, where our forefathers have done before us. And, to tell you the naked truth of it, we have no mind in Scotland to adventure. And thus much for the Conference between and myself & my other friends at London.

The late Queen Elizabeth of famous memory was often possessed with a good opinion of the golden Mines in Scotland viz. about some forty years by past. Long before M<sup>r</sup> Bulmer had intelligence, one Cornelius Devosse a most cunning picture maker & excellent in art for trial of Minerals and Mineral-stones, sometimes dwelling in London a young man well acquainted with M<sup>r</sup> Nicholas Hilliard a Goldsmith, then principal drawer of small Pictures to the late Queen Elizabeth, procured the same Hilliard to adventure with him into Scotland & to send his servant & friend as an Agent thither, by name Arthur Van brounckhurst: for at that time there was a great report and fame, that went of the natural Gold gotten within the Kingdom of Scotland.

Brounckhurst being known to be a good Artist, skilfull & weel seen in all sorts of stones, especially in Minerals & Mineral stones; M<sup>r</sup> Hilliard ceased not, untill he had procured a Patent, which was granted unto Cornelius Devosse, without molestation to seek, as others before had done, for natural Gold in Scotland. And then M<sup>r</sup> Hilliard & Cornelius Devosse made upon reasonable conditions an Assignment unto Arthur Van Brounckhurst who after that, power full, set sundry Workmen to work without any trouble or molestation.

And Arthur Van-Brounckhurst had a further privilege than others that were before him. He was admitted to bring with him into England a good quantity of Gold unrefined & without any other dressing than was used by water and to put the same stones, Minerals or Mineral stones, and the gold that therewithall dwelled, safely into a barrel or vessel fit for that purpose.

For Cornelius & M<sup>r</sup> Hilliard had the like from thence

before, sundry times, And Van Bronckhurst and they two had often out of other Nations the like sort of gold, & they were informed by men of good experience travelling through forreign nations, affirming that as sand and gravel have their several beds within the superficies of the earth in sundry places within England; even so are there Beds of Gold & Silver in forreign Countreys where they have travelled. And so Craggs & Rocks have their several Veins or beds of Ewer, Iron, Copper, & Tin, Mines within the Bowels of the Earth in the kingdoms of England, Scotland & Ireland or in the Principalities of Wales. Even so Gold and Silver have their Veins in Rocks amongst the Waters in the Earth & under the Waters in the ground. And they hoped in that manner to find out the Bed or Vein of Gold in Scotland. And this opinion I hold to be good: for I ever will be of the same mind, that there is both a Bed & Vein of Gold in Scotland.

And now, upon the event, what is written of Arthur Van Brounckhurst. viz. he searched sundry Moors & found Gold in sundry places; but he was forced to leave it all at the Minthouse in Scotland by special command from his Majesty being then in Minority. Whereas before it was conditioned betwixt Mr Hilliard & Cornelius of the one part, & Van Brounckhurst of the other part; that the said Brounckhurst should pay the full valuation for all such natural Gold as should be gotten by him in Scotland, unto the King in Minority or unto the Regent for the use of his Majesty. And to that purpose, he had both Gold & Silver store out of England, so to perform it, as by his Patent he was obliged to do. And it is written that the Earle of Morton, being then Regent, would not give way unto Van Brounckhurst his Patent, although the said Brounckhurst became a suiter, at least for the space of Four Moneths, & did not prevaill unto this day. And so at last, he was forced to become one of his  
 42. Majesties sworn servants at ordinary in Scotland, to draw all  
 • the small & great Pictures for his Majesty. And by this means Mr Hilliard & Cornelius Devosse lost all their charges, & never since got any recompence, to Mr Hilliards great hinderance, as he saith, who yet liveth, & confirmeth the same.

Now will I write concerning Mr Bulmer. In the late Queen

Elizabeths Reign Mr Bulmer was well impowered by letters of Warranty with a Patent granted by Her Majesty in England & from the Kings Majesty of Scotland, there to make an Adventure, & seek for the Gold & Silver Mines in any place within that Kingdome especially within these five Moors or Forrests following. viz. 1 Upon the Manrock Moor he had Workmen & Labourers to search out the natural Gold in Niddesdale and got there some small quantity thereof, but he built no house there to dwell in, which was an hinderance.

2 Upon Winlock-Water, on Robert Moor, likewise in Nidesdale, he caused searche diligently for natural Gold, and got sometimes a pretty quantity together. He brought home a Water-course there, to wash and scour the natural Gold from the Earth that had before been descended from the Mountains, ever since Noahs floud: neither built he houses there to dwell in, but they all went to the Leadhill unto Thomas Flouds his house to diet. Whereas Mr Bowes had there built a dwelling house, that might have sufficed him; yet he repaired it not. But some say that he also found out the suspected Vein of Gold, of which Mr Bowes had discovered: a good part or quantity he brought thereof unto the Queen of England, but had not the same in abundance which I had believe.

3. Upon Frier-Moor or Glangonner Water, within Cliddesdale Mr Bulmer hunted for Gold, & got there reasonable good store; & upon Glangonner Water he built a very fair Countrey house to dwell in, he furnished it fitting for himself & his family. He kept therein great Hospitality; he purchased Lands & Grounds round about it; he kept thereupon many Cattle, as horses, kine, sheep, &c. And he brought home there a Water-Course for the washing & cleaning of Gold. By <sup>43.</sup> the help thereof he got much stragling Gold, on the skirts of the hills, & in the Valleys, but none in solid places, which maintained himself then in great pomp: and thereby he kept open house for all comers & goers, as is reported; he feasted all sorts of people that came thither.

4. Upon Short-Cleuch Water, on Crawford Moor, he brought home another goodly Water Course, & intended to make there sundry Damms to contain Water for the Buddles, & for Scowrs, for the washing of gold; & he often found store



thereof & purposed to have built there another dwelling house and storehouse. But it is said that his Hospitality & want of Frugality were the Thieves that burst in, & so robbed his house, & cut his purse bottom clean away. And thus he consumed himself & wasted what he did get in Gold, which was much both of great and small Gold, having got as much Gold there, as might have royally maintained three times so many men as he did keep.

5. From Short-Cleuch Water he removed unto Long Cleuch braes or Long Cleuchhead, up the great Hill, to seek Gold in solid places, where he discovered a string thereof but there he wanted a Water Course to help him. This Vein had plenty of the Sapparstone in it, which sometimes held natural Gold a little, not much. But the sallineer stones that were contained in that Vein at Long Cleuch head held much silver, & may prove a rich Mine, if it be followed by such as know the nature thereof. viz. the Minerals. It is said That Vein was somewhat powdered with small Gold, and therefore called Powdered Gold. It was a Vein discovered by Master Bulmer, and is not to be called a Bed of Gold, as is in some places to be found : for the Bed is of another fashion.

The cause why they removed from Short Cleuchbraes to Long Cleuch head was, for that the Workmen had been shodding, hunting & chasing after a peice or two of great Gold which they found there within two foot of the Mosses. It was weighed to be six ounce weight as they report, that found the one peice. The other was five ounce and better, which was supposed to descend from the Bed of Gold : but no  
 44. Bed thereof, as yet was found there for it was clean Gold of itself. No King, Prince, Superiour, or any other Governour ever saw more perfit natural Gold than it was, neither ever shall see, & especially of Gods own handy work. It never was made by the art of any man, but as I said before, by that great Philosopher of Heaven, & this is that God which maketh the true Philosophers stones of nothing, & they are to be discovered within the bowels of the Earth amongst Rocks & Craggs, called God's Treasure house.

I heard it credibly reported, that at Long Cleuchhead there was found a peice of broun Sparr, a peice of which I saw,

somewhat like unto sugar candy, which after it was broke, had in it an ounce of Gold, of Gods own naturall handy work which Sparr stone as I suppose, is called the Sappar stone in forreign Nations & Provinces & the same Brown Sparr weighed two pound Weight Troy.

At Long Cleuch head Mr Bulmer made a stamping mill called in forreign Countreys Tanacanagno. Many such as it, are used at the West Indies; & in Cornwall within the Kingdom of England. It is sometimes called a Plash-mill, where there be many of them made to dress Tin. Out of such stones gotten in the Earth amongst Rocks and Beds in which by the eye of man little or nothing can be discerned & by the same means Mr Bulmer used to get small mealy Gold. At Long Cleuch head in Scot. he got much thereof & gave some away sundry times to unthankfull persons. He sold much thereof for half payment, & such as he was most liberal unto, were readiest to cut his throat. And he continued still liberal in Hospitality, none like him in that time; so it is reported through all Crawford Moor.

Upon Glangaber Water in Henderland within the Forrest of Atrick Mr Bulmer got the greatest gold, the like to it in no other place before of Scotland. But he was at no cost to bring home Water Courses there; nor built he any houses to dwell in, neither stayed he long. And he had there sometimes <sup>45.</sup> great Gold like Indian Wheat or Pearle, & black eyed like to Beans. And he did not mean to settle there his Workmen, till another fitter time should come: for he was driven away by force of weather; & called away by other great occasions as is said. He had always many Irons in the fire, besides these which he himself presently looked on; and often intricate matters to decide, & too many prodigal Wasters hanging on every shoulder of him; & he wasted much himself; and gave liberally to many for to be honoured, praised and magnified: else he might have been a rich subject: for the least of these profusions were able to rob an Abbot. By such means he was impoverished & followed other Idle vices to his dying day; that were allowable of God nor man. And so once down, ay down, & at last he died at Austinmoor in my debt 340 lb. sterling. to my great hinderance & left me in Ireland much in

debt for him. But if he had lived to this day undoubtedly he might have paid all men.

Amongst all the Gold which Mr Bulmer had gotten in Scotland besides that which he had given amongst his friends, this is to be noted, that he presented unto the late Queen Elizabeth, so much natural gold as made a porringer of clean Gold. And her Majesty liked so well of the gift, that she was pleased to say unto him, Mr Bulmer, Thou art a true faithfull servant; I have too few such as thou art: but I will not forget thee, & this thy gift shall remember me, when I see it, & not thee. Upon this Porringer made of clean Scots Gold, without any other addition; Mr Bulmer caused these Verses to be engraven as written unto the Queen of England.

I dare not give, nor yet present,  
But render part of that's thy own.  
My mind & heart shall still invent  
To seek out Treasure yet unknown.

And so having lost his former suit, which was his Living, 46. then he recalled himself, & penned a Book of all his Acts, Works & Devices. He named it Bulmers Skill; it was written, not printed. Amongst many others his memorable deeds, his mind still did run upon the Gold mines in Scotland. Another great part of his Book was how the Silver mines the minerals & mineral stones might be effected; & how his Tin mines were followed; & how the Coal mines & salt work were prosecuted; and how his Lead-mines at Mendip were the most commodious of all others to him. And thus he set down the charge of each of them severally the profit that did arise by some other work; & the loss that he sustained by others, the great charge of Engines, sundry of his own Inventions besides the several practices he used in sundry shires.

But the greatest thing I observe in Mr Bulmers Book called Bulmer's Skill, is this. First he saith, that he had been with his Majesty in the first of his Majesties Reign over England, and that His Highness was well pleased to see him so weel, & to bear his age & travels so comely. And especially said the King, because I desire to hear more of my gold mines in Scotland, What think you thereof. Are they to be discovered?

May they become profitable to us & our Crown? If it may be without too much adventure & loss, speak the truth, & no more than the truth upon thy Allegiance.

Mr Bulmer answered, All mines are uncertain within the earth; for God hath hidden his manifold blessings within the corners of the earth, amongst crevices and holes, even in secret places; & it is not to be doubted but that your Majesties golden mines may be discovered, if it might please your Grace to enure them.

And shortly after Bulmer said, that his Majesty conceived so good an opinion of them, that he had them much in remembrance, amongst other his great & weighty businesses, esteeming them to be none of the smallest pleasing unto God, not the least that God had ordained for man within the Earth. Therefore the King had devised a Plot, how the said Gold works might be set awork anew, & thereby become com-<sup>47</sup>. modious unto his Crown and Dignity, and so a great terrour to all the enemies of God, if it hit.

I doubt said the King, the silver mines of England decay or else are not to be found so plentiful, as in times past. It is true, said Mr Bulmer. And therefore quoth the King, as I desire to have a new onset to find out from whence this naturall Gold doth descend, so I have meditated thereupon, & have devised a plot how the Gold mines may be set open, & thereby become profitabler than heretofore. And to that purpose I have devised this Plot, whereby they may continually be supplied and continued in working, without ceasing. And thus with labour of man, many hills & mountains be turned into Dales & Valleys, and the waters run over the hills & so alter courses into other places.

Mr Bulmer liked well of the Plot, and said, that it is the readiest way to discover it; but it was a chargeable way: for it is as easy to find the true Philosophers stone. I have also foreseen & prevented that quoth the King. It is thought fitting, that Bulmer shall be a Superiour or Chief thereof, because of his trust and skill, which was liked of by the Lords of the Council in Scotland. Therefore let Bulmer procure 24 Gentlemen within England of sufficient lands & livings; or any other his friends of Scotland, that shall be willing to be



Undertakers thereof and to be Adventurers towards the discovery thereof; and see that all these Gentlemen be of such sufficiency in lands, goods, or chattels as the worst be worth 10000 lib. sterling or else 500 lib sterling per annum; and all such Gentlemen to be moved to disburse 300 lib sterlin each man in moneys or victuals for maintenance of the Gold mines in Scotland; for which Disbursement each man to have the honour of knighthood bestowed upon him, and so for ever to be called The Knight of the Golden Mines, or the Golden Knight. And none then spake against it, so as M<sup>r</sup> Bulmer thought it should be done that the King had said. Besides  
 48. all the moneys or victuals so collected to be carried to a storehouse and to be committed to the custody of two Treasurers to see the employment thereof, the one of England the other of Scotland.

But it still was intended also that M<sup>r</sup> Bulmer should be Chief Governour or Guider of all such Workmen and to direct the whole Works whatsoever during his life, if it endured so long. And that Workmen might weekly be payed from M<sup>r</sup> Bulmer; and that Houses & Mills might be foreseen to be built at the best hand; and to provide for all necessities as Victuals, Tools, Instruments and Implements whatsoever by M<sup>r</sup> Bulmer; and that Clowes, Damms and Watercourses be made fitting to the furnishing of the said Gold Mines & washing of Gold &c. And that all sorts of WaterMills, Stamping Mills and Plash mills that are requisite, be made ready, as is thought good to be done by M<sup>r</sup> Bulmer or his Agents.

Lastly to erect a church or chappel for all the Workmen, where they may make their Prayers to God for their souls health. And then the works of their hands will be blessed and come to a good end, to Gods glory, the Kings profit and a benefit to the Commonweal, as is in other countreys and nations.

M<sup>r</sup> Bulmer took his oath diverse times in my hearing, all this to be true, and that it was intended by the King. And all these sayings he told amongst his frequented friends, who liked so well of it, that they said It is too good news not to be true. But the next time that M<sup>r</sup> Bulmer came from Court,

he came home very pensive & grew sick and then he confessed that the Earle of Salisbury had crossed all his expected fortunes in his future business: for, said he, all is quite dashed, that his Majesty intended. And then he called himself to remembrance, his charge, his children, and family. Well, said he, God giveth & God taketh away; Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time forth & for evirmore. <sup>49.</sup> Again he said, But me thinketh it strange, that the King of Great Britain should make a grant & that a nobleman<sup>1</sup> of England should cut it off, and say It is not fitting that such a suit should be granted, to so mean a man: for it was too great for any subject in England. And thus the dubbing of these 24 Knights was ended, & the Golden Mines were not spoken of for that time any more. Only one Knight was made, called Sir John Cleypool; for he had ventured with M<sup>r</sup> Bulmer before 500lib. sterl. at the Gold Mines in Scotland. He is yet living, and saith It is very true. So the Gold Mines charge was cut off at that time, till I myself did undertake them at my own Charge.

Sir Bewis Bulmer hath set down in his book the manner how the rich Silver mines at Hilderstone in Scotland were found and how they were lost. After the full discovery thereof, he rested not, untill he named them, calling one Pit or Shaft, Gods Blessing, because of the wonderfull works of God, that he had seen, the like whereunto were never before known to be within any of his Majesties Kingdomes. And I have good cause to be well acquainted with that silver mine, being there imployed from the beginning till the going out thereof; as a Refiner of the same, & a longer time than any others of England, Scotland or Germany.

Now concerning the first finding out thereof, Sir Bewis saith in his Book, that it was found out by meer fortune or chance of a Collier by name Sandy Mund a Scotsman, as he sought about the skirts of those Hills near to the burn or Water of Hilderstone. And this Scotsman, by means of digging the ground, hit upon the heavy peice of Red metall, the like unto which no man thereabouts ever saw. It was raced with

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<sup>1</sup> 'Earle Salisbury' [interlined].

many small strings like unto hairs or threads. It had descended from a vein thereof, where it had ingendred with the Sparrstone, which Sparrstone in forreign Provinces is called by other Travellers *Cacilla*. And he sought further into the ground and found a peice of brownish Sparrstone, 50. which was mossie. He broke it with his Mattock and it was white & glittered within like unto small white Copper Reeve, which is to be found in many common free stones. He never dreaming of any silver to be in that stone, shewed it to some of his friends and they said Where hadst thou it? At the Silver Burn, quoth he, under the hill called Kernpople. Whereupon a Gentleman of Linlithgow wished Sandy Mundy to travell unto the Leadhill and about Glangonner Water he should hear of one Sir Bewis Bulmer, and said If it prove good, he will be thankfull, if otherwise, he will reward thee, I will. Whereupon he took his journey toward the Leadhill & came to M<sup>r</sup> Bulmer's house, and shewed these few Minerals or Mineral stones that he had gotten at the Silver burn near to Linlithgow & gave him a letter from M<sup>r</sup> Robert Stewart which was lovingly accepted of; and then one of his servants made fire in the Assay-furnace, to make triall thereof. Mr Bulmer did not trust to the first trial, because it proved rich; but went to it again & again, & still it proved rich & wondrous rich.

Shortly after my coming to Gods Blessing in Scotland, the Silver mine being set open, I was let down into that shaft so named & I brought up with me a most admirable peice of the *Cacilla* stone, a mineral stone, which I thought came from one of Gods Treasure houses: part whereof I kept still, & a part thereof I sent for a token unto London to my Uncle Atkinson of Fosterlane & it was much accepted of. It was much more admired at by many Gold Smiths of London, who saw it, proved it, tried & commended it above all others that ever they saw before. And then my Uncle Atkinson, who is now dead, made an occasion and went to the Court at Whitehall, desirous to speak with the Earle of Salisbury his Honourable good Lord and Friend, unto whom he shewed it. And the Earle of Salisbury likewise much admired at it saying, 51. M<sup>r</sup> Atkinson, you have done me as great a pleasure herein, and more than I expected or could devise, if so be that it

be gotten within the kingdom of Scotland, without collusion : for I must tell you, there be many prodigious Workmen in the World and too many in the Kingdom of England.

Whereupon Mr Atkinson replied saying My Lord, I will hazard my life that this token sent to me by my Kinsman was gotten by him in the ground. I dare presume thereof. for hitherto I thank God, I have brought him up from his Cradle, & I am sure he doth not collude.

And then the Earl replied saying Shall I then believe you? and may I shew it unto the Kings Majesty? I tell you truly it is the best token that I ever received out of that Kingdom or any other Kingdom of that quality by any other Gentleman whatsoever, and I will be thankfull unto you, use me, when you please. And the Earl said a more curious peice of work, in a stone, viz. in a Mineral or Mineral stone, no man hath ever seen; which I esteem above all others, because of Scotland, from whence I have sundry times had gold, but never anything in this sort, as perfit silver. Further telling Mr Atkinson, that he would shew it unto the King & deliver it again, if he be not countermanded. But it was never more seen to Mr Atkinson, neither had he ever content for it.

The manner how it grew, was like unto the hair of a man's head and the grass in the feild. And the Vein thereof, out of which I had it, was once two inches thick by measure & rule. The metal thereof was both malleable & tough. It was course silver worth 4<sup>s</sup> 6<sup>d</sup> the ounce weight not fine silver as is made by the art of man.

The greatest quantity of silver that ever was gotten at God's Blessing was raised & fined out of the Red metal: and the purest sort thereof then contained in it 24 ounces of fine silver upon every hundred weight valued at six score pounds Sterling the Tun. And much of the same Red mettall by Assay held twelve score pound Sterling per Tun.

But when the same Mines befell unto the Kings Majesty to 52. be Superior or Governour thereof, then indeed it was not altogether so rich in silver: But two Scots ships at the second Return, were freighted therewith viz. the white sparr and the Red metal together which at depth proved not so rich as the other before brought in one ship in the last long great



frost, unto the tower of London, I being at that time in the ship.

When I wrought on the first sort of Red metal for Mr Bulmer and My Lord Advocate of Scotland, sundry times I refined it and commonly for the space of three days weekly I made 100 lib. sterl. each day.

Some part of the same Red metal was brought to London to be tried & small profit arose thereof, & scantly it payed charges thereof for the blessing of God was extracted by Gods providence before. I tried of the like Red metall at the Tower of London, being a parcell of the first ten Tuns. And Coals & other charges were so dear, as Wages &c. that it scantly countervailed the expenses thereof. But in Scotland it was done by me with Peats & Stone coals at reasonable price: and I did more in Scotland in one day, than in three at London, thereby came profit.

But this was the strangest of all others, and as it were almost incredible for man to believe. Untill the said Red metal came to 12 fathoms deep, it remained still good; but from thence unto 30 fathom deep, it proved nought: the property thereof was quite changed miraculously in goodness, it was worth little or nothing. And more, upon an instant, after the Brunwicks entered, it was quite altered in quality, but not in colour, fashion & heaviness.

And thus much more I dare presume to promise, with the help of God's assistance, and his Majesties laudable authority, to discover the like Silver Mine near unto Hilderstone, as was before at Hilderstone, having the help of an Englishman named before in my Commission for the gold mines. Which hardly will be effected, but only for his gracious Majesty. And how long then the same will continue, being discovered that is best known unto God, not to any man: for mines be  
 53. as uncertain for continuance, as life is to man, which is like a Bubble upon the Waters; to day a man, to morrow none.

It was proved by myself in the Gold mines of Scotland, that sundry other sorts of minerals and mineral stones are produced from many Nations, of great value. I read of the precious Onyx stone, the Diamond and the Carbuncle, the Topaz, the Crystal, the Coral & Jabish the Pearle the Sapphir, and many other stones gotten both within the Earth, and within Beasts, Fishes and Worms, in which they ingender.

And for the Earth, I have seen in Scotland Natural Gold ingender with sundry stones; natural Silver & malleable, to abide the Hammer, natural quicksilver amongst the sea-sands; and perfit red Copper and malleable in stones; Tin of several colours, black, brown & gray; Lead malleable growing in his Ewer and a white heavy Sparr to hold store of malleable Lead; Iron to be in sundry coloured stones, perfit, hard and abiding the Hammer. And I believe all sorts of Minerals and Mineral stones as well in cold countreys as in hot with the Earth are occasioned by that in Scotland.

Mr Bulmer writeth of the variety of stones & metals found out by him in Scotland to wit, 1 Natural gold, great and small; 2 Natural Silver, the like before he never saw. 3 Copper stone of the richest sort. 4 Lead ewer, great store at Leadhill. 5 Iron stones, abundance thereof. 6 Of Stone coals or sea coals, great plenty. 7 Beds of Alabaster Stone. 8 Of Marble Stones, good store and much desired. 9 Of Amethyst Stone marvellous amiable: for he had a man that wrought the same stones, and one of them the King's Majesty did wear. 10 Natural Pearle is found in Galloway, amongst the common people within the Scots sea sands. Infinite other riches are there also: yet some are not ashamed to ask Whether the sun, moon or starrs do shine in that Countrey or not?

Some old ancient Gold Smiths of London compare the natural Gold of Scotland unto Tyber Gold, who say that the like Gold was usually gotten in Valleys and Dales by the river Side of Tiberis. Some say it is like to the Gold of Tygris. <sup>54.</sup> And some say, It is like to Guinea Gold which was brought to London by Sir Walter Rauleigh almost forty years since. And so it is; for when I saw it, and brought the Scots Gold to be laid by it in a paper, no man could discern the one from the other.

In Clidesdale and Nidesdale within the Kingdom of Scotland is a place which may be compared unto the Garden of Eden, or called a second Eden, though not so pleasant & fruitfull above ground, yet richer under ground for gold. And there be four Waters or Rivers, the heads whereof descend out of Mountains and Mosses: or hard Rocks & Craggs. These Rivers are also divided by Gods omnipotent power into four heads.

1. The name of one called Glangonner Water within Clidesdale upon Frier Moor, of which the Lord Marquess

Hamiltoun is Superior under his Majesty, where there is much natural Gold and the gold of that Land is good. It is commonly found near the Riverside in Valleys and Dales. It hath been washed down into these Combs from the Mountains and Mosses on each side of the River viz. from the Vein or Bed thereof. It commonly looketh pale and wan, not red & high coloured like other Gold. Glangonner Water descendeth into the river Clide, from thence to Glasgow and so unto the sea.

2. The name of the second is Short Cleuch Water upon Alwayne within Cliddesdale in Crawford-moor, of which the Earle of Lothiane alias Lord Newbottle is Superior under His Majesty, where is Gold and the Gold of this land is also good. This Gold is red Gold. The Water descendeth to the River Clide, from thence to Glasgow and so to the sea.

Upon Short Cleuch Water, Gold was gotten by me and brought to the Kings Majesty, tried to be worth 76000 lib. the Tun Weight by the Lord Knevet.

These Braes are very like to prove rich Braes, if they be diligently searched, and the Vein or Bed thereof is not far off from that Gold in Valleys and Combs, before gotten. The  
 55. Water courses at Short Cleuch are in great decay for want of reparation.

3. The name of the third River is Winlock-head, or Winlock-water upon Robert-moor within Nidesdale, of which the Lord Sanchar is Superior under his Majesty, and the laird of Closeburn is Fewer thereof wherein is Gold and the Gold of this land is good.

It is said that Mr Bowes discovered a Vein thereof, and hid it up again in the late Queen Elizabeths Reign, as before mentioned. This Water descends to Craig, from thence to the River of Nith and so to Drumfries, from thence to Carlisle and so to the sea.

4. The name of the fourth River is Mannock Water upon Mannock moor, within Nidesdale, and the Lord Drumlanrick is Superior thereof under His Majesty. In this land Gold is found and the Gold is good.

But it is like unto jagged Gold and rough; not smooth Gold, as upon the rest of the Moors. This Water descendeth unto the River of Nith and so unto Drumfreiss; thence to Carlisle, and so unto the sea.

Silver hath been extracted out of Lead Ewer, Copper Ewer, & Iron stone in England. As for Tin Mine, it is so chargeable & besides it is a rank poyson unto Gold and Silver, and it is not to be medled withall for silver. But if you desire to seek for Gold and Silver, then seek it, as in other Nations, out of these dry Minerals or these Mineral stones viz. the Sappar, the Calaminar, the Saxere and the Salineer stones for Gold. And I find by my practise and observation, that silver only & no other metal is to be extracted out of these dry Minerals & Mineral stones, viz. the Cacilla, the Tacano the Centeno and the Mandieta stones.

For testing whereof I have found the Centeno at Comb Martin in Devon, which the Tinnners in Cornwall called Blend and some men called it a sulphure as is in coals.

I find at Bereferries in Devon the Tacano, heavy which the Tinnners do call Chalk, but in Lincolnshire I find the same <sup>56</sup>. dry stones light; which is called Tawlk. In Cornwall and Devon it is called White Marchasite. But nothing but perfect silver is to be extracted out of the perfect Tacano, which is a perfect dry mineral or mineral stone.

Now for the Cacilla I find it in Scotland, which Scotsmen call Bell Metall, or Red Metal and it is a brittle metal, which in a Pot driveth like unto silver in the fire and is no silver, nor any other malleable metal. But this I can say thereof, that the oftener it is melted of itself in a Pot, and driven well therein by the fire, still you shall find silver in the Principal, till it be consumed, but no other malleable metal. I have written hereof before in this Book.

For the Mandieta, I have found it to be within the Kingdom of Ireland, near unto the place or Castle called Artully in Desmond. The Irish call it Silver Mine, the English call it black metal, most like unto Tin ewer in Cornwall & Devon. The Dutchmen or Germans call it a mineral stone much like unto Tin, and is no Tin, it consuming the other thing viz. silver.

I can say thus much of that black stone. Melt it with the Lead ewer which ingenders with it, and it will make the same body called Lead to be hard; and when that hard is broken, it will look in grain and colour like the richest Lead ewer that



ever I have fined in England or any of his Majesties Dominions. I have tried Lead Ewer at Comb Martin, and Bereferries in Devon, at Langassack in Cornwall at Slateburn in Lancashire, at Keswick in Cumberland, at Clannomonirook in Wales; & at in Cardiganshire; In Scotland at Hilderstone in Lothian: but never found I the like unto this. But I find that this black Mandietta consumes away much of the silver in it, except it be clean purged away from the Ewer, and then the Ewer holdeth only an ounce upon the Lead that comes thereof.

I have seen the same Lead of Artully, before the silver was extracted, to make good Tavern pots, Bowl pots member pots and saucers, much like unto Pewter, but was none.

57. MEMORANDUM of the MINERALS in SCOTLAND communicated to me by COLONEL BORTHWICK.

1. There is a silver mine on the northside of the Hill of South Fardin, beside the burn that runs from Tiliry in the Laird of Meinzie's his land in the parish of Foveran, ten miles northeast from Aberdeen.

2. There is Gold to be found in several places about Duni-deer, beyond Aberdeen several miles.

3. There is a Silver mine in a Bank called the Golden Bank at Menzies in the Parish of Foveran ten miles north from Aberdeen.

4. There is also a silver mine at the back of a Park, where there is a Well that serves Disblairs Houshold, within a pair of Butts length to the gates of Disblair in the Parish of Fintra. The mine is about the Wall eight miles North by Aberdeen.

5. There is much Gold in the Boggs of New Leslie to be found and at Drumgarran, where George Leslie did live, two miles from Dunidder.

6. There is an Iron mine at the Wall of Sipa, at the west-side of the Womanhill, near Gilkomstoun Mill, a quarter of a mile from Aberdeen.

7. There is a Gold mine very rich in a Husband town called Overhill in the Parish of Behelvie, that belongs to my Lord Glames, three fathoms beneath the Kyn, that is at the head of the In-town.

8. There is a Lead mine at the head of Longlie burn, in the northside of Selkirk.

9. There is a Copper place called Elphen, in an Hill beside Allen in the Laird of Hiltowns lands.

10. There is in Galloway, in the hill of Skrill, silver in a stripe of Water ten fathoms of length from the spring that runs into the stripe.

11. There is a silver mine in Windyneil in Tweddale in several parts thereabout.

12. There is Gold in a place called Glenclought, which the miners did find long since at the Kirkhill, toward the East-side thereof.

13. In Largo-Law in Fife Copper enough.

14. There is silver in the Hill called the Lochenhill on the southside thereof.

15. There is a Lead mine in my Lord Brotherstoun's Land, 58. two miles from the sea. Much Lead there.

16. There are several sorts of metals to be found near by Kirkcudbright & specially in the Barony of Drumdenan, which lands belong to my Lord Kirkcudbright.

17. There is Copper in the northeast side of Borthwick hill, betwix Hawick and Branscome.

18. There is silver in the Caylies moor,<sup>1</sup> within the Burn that is betwixt the Sorn and Machlin place.

There is Copper ore found in Cantyre in a hill there, of the colour of Gold sayeth Mr Ganiel.

Mr Ganiel sayeth he heth had ane hundred severall Leed ores from the Orknay Islands.

Another MEMORANDUM of the MINERALS of SCOTLAND not much differing from the former, and communicated to me by the same hand.

In the Boggs of New-Leslie, upon the Burnside and at Drumgavan where George Leslie did dwell, two miles from Dunideer.

And in Northfidle-hill in one John Keiths land, beside ReivenHeivne Gold.

<sup>1</sup> 'Kyles Moor' [interlined].

And at Menzies in the Golden bank there, in the Parish of Foveran, and at the Hill of South Fardin.

And in the Overhill beneath the kylvn in the In-town: this is in the parish of Behelvie.

And in Dinkey hill in Carrick, not far from Mayboll.

And in Caylies-moor within the Burn that is betwixt the Sorn and Machlin place.

And in Henderland, Glangaber-burn there.

And in Dowglass braes, and at Dowglass craig.

And at Windy-neil in Tweddale

And in Borthwick hill betwixt Hawick & Branxome.

And in Mareth within the Blacklions in Yarrow.

And in Louglie burn, in the Northside of Selkirk.

59. And also at the Newtown in Angen, Caitburn in Annan-dale.

And in Over-Lochenburn, *Alto y baxo*.

And at Sarus Arrius at Beneithill in Fife.

Sulway sands near to the newtoun of Annan, not far from Drumfreiss. *Micie chiltir*.

Durenness Warenener. It belongs to the Lord Ray. Alli ay una piedra muy rebucente de moche tambien an, metal muy bueno.

In Glen-Iyla, stat caselluschall, at Calderhall.

And Over-Glen, above St. Brides Kirk

And in Normingill on the side of Camps Watter.

And in Aluan water and Cherries braes.

Lancla, Kokseye and Long Cleuch.

And Bellies baik and Jernies mayr.

And in Glennaip betwixt Carrick and Galloway.

And Ruberlawhill, a mile from Bodua.

And in Galloway, in the Barony of Tareagles. In a Hill called Colochen hill.

And Largo-Law in Fife. Plata de azur

And in Hara in Caithness in the Laird Rathers Land.

Dumpender law. It belongs to Bedwall.

And in Moir or Air-Law beside Crichtoun Den. *Oro*.

And in the Laird of Downs Law in Kelnes.

And in My Lord Brotherstouns Land, lead two miles from the sea.

And in Court wit-burn.

In Galloway in the hill of Skrill, in a stripe of Water,  
*Mucho oro y grandes pedaços.*

And in the Water above Tairpland Mill, & in sundry other parts thereabout.

And in a burn that comes from the head of Moffet-Water.  
*Oro.*

Annan Water in Annandale.

And in Glencloucht, where the Miners did find much Gold 60.  
long since at the Kirkhill.

And in Long Forglen-Moor three miles from Dundee.

And in and at Santans hill.

And at James Crawfords, at and in Muikeet, *Millen unelto*

Not far from Culross thrie or four miles above Torieburn.

## ACCOUNT of SUTHERLAND and of the EARLE of SUTHERLAND.

All that Tract of land, which lies betwixt Port na Couter and Dungsbay, was of old called Cattey. That part of it, which lies Eastward from the hill Ord, was named Cattey Ness, and afterward Cathness, the Promontory of Cattey. That on this side the Ord was called simply Cattey, and afterward for distinctions sake South Cattey and Sutherland, which to this day, in the language of the natives and Highlanders, retains the name of Cattey as the Sutherland men are called Catteigh and the Earl of Sutherland Morvar Cattey. Dornoch is a Burgh Royal and the Bishops Seat.

We find in the History that Alan Thane of Sutherland was one of them, whom the Tyrant Macbeth put to death, because of their inclination to King Malcom's Interest and have great reason to judge the succeeding Earles to be descended of him.

But that which upon the faith of unquestionable Records yet extant, can be averred concerning this family is, That the present Earls of Sutherland are retoured and served Heires lineally upward to William the Lion, in or about the year . . . . . All that remains concerning him, is a Charter granted by him



confirming certain Lands in Sutherland to Gilbert then Archdeacon of Murray, afterward Bishop of Caithness, called St. Gilbert; which lands are confirmed to the same Gilbert by King William in a Charter of Confirmation dated at Sleischillis the 29<sup>th</sup> of April, without naming the year. These same Lands being disposed by Gilbert to his brother Richard, there is a Confirmation of that Disposition granted by King Alexander dated at St. Andrews Dec<sup>r</sup> 26, 1235.

61. This Earles son was likewise called William, of whom there is yet extant an Indenture and Agreement concerning some lands that were in controversie betwixt him and his Father, there designed Earles of Sutherland on the one part, and Archibald then Bishop of Caithness, and the above mentioned Gilbert on the other. This is dated the Calends of October 1275 in the reign of Alexander the 3<sup>d</sup>. The Earle of Sutherland is found subscribing that famous Letter to the Pope in the time of King Robert Bruce, which is printed in Sir George Mackenzie's Book of Heraldry and is the only Nobleman then subscribing, whose Posterity at this day continue in that quality.

This Family was in the greatest height in the time of King David Bruce, whose youngest sister was married to William Earle of Sutherland as his elder was to the Stewart: King David heaped many favours upon this family, as may be seen particularly mentioned in Hector Boetius. He erected the Earledome of Sutherland into a Regality in the year 1347. He gave to this Earle many other lands also, such as the Thanedome of Downy in the Sherifdome of Forfar, the Thanesdomes of Kincardin, Fettercairn, and Aberlichnoch and the Castle of Dunotter in the Sherifdome of Kincardin, the half of the Thanesdomes of Formartin & Kintore and the Barony of Cluny in the Sherifdome of Aberdeen and the Barony of Urchart in the Sherifdome of Inverness: of all which the Charters are still extant granted by King David. But of those and other Lands he, on a foolish expectation, was too liberall, as Hector Boetius tells. This Earles eldest son was sent to England an Hostage for the King his Uncle, and there dyed. After whose death he had another son John, afterward Earle, of whom his Mother Lady Margaret Bruce died in Childbed.

They alwayes retained the sirname of Sutherland, till John the fourth, so called, Earle of Sutherland, dying without Issue, the Inheritance fell to Elizabeth his sister Countess of Sutherland, who was served Heir to her father in the year 1509 and to her brother in the year 1514. She married Adam Gordon Lord Aboyne second son to George the second Earle of Huntly. This Adam thus by marriage Earl of Sutherland obliged Y-Roy Mack-Y to give him a Bond of Service of the 62. date 1516 and John Mack-Y to give him another of the date 1518, which was renewed again, 1522. His son Alexander dying before himself, left behind him John Gordon afterward Earle of Sutherland, who was served Heir to his Grand Mother Elizabeth Sutherland Countess of Sutherland the 23<sup>d</sup> of June 1567. He took a bond of Manrent or service from Mackenzie of Kintayl dated 1545 and another from Mack-Y of the date 1549, both which are yet in the custody in the Earles of Sutherland. This Earle was made Lieutenant General for the Queen from Spey Northward in the year 1547. and had the Government of Ross from Queen Mary 1555. To him succeeded Alexander who purchased the superiority of the lands of Strath-na-ver, which the Mack-Y still holds of the Earles of Sutherland in Few-ferm. To him succeed John Earle of Sutherland, to whom K. James the 6<sup>th</sup> confirms his Right of Regality granted to his Predecessor by King David Bruce, and further erects Sutherland into a Sherifdome, taking in Strath-Naver and Assint; all which before were parts of the Sherifdome of Inverness, and constitutes the Earle of Sutherland Heritable Sherif and gives to Inver-Broray in Sutherland the Priviledge of a Burgh of Barony; all by a charter dated in the year 1601. This Earle obtained likewise an Heritable Right of the Admiralty of the whole coasts of the Sherifdomes of Sutherland & Caithness in the year 1612, which Priviledges of Regality, Sherifdome, and Admiralty are still in the possession of this Family. This Earle was Grandfather to George the present Earle and Representative of this ancient family of Sutherland.

The principall founders of Families, which have descended of this have been 1. Nicholas Sutherland son to Kenneth Earle of Sutherland who died at the battel of Hollowdown hill in

the year 1333. He founded the family of Duffus. 2 John and Kenneth Sutherlands both sons to Nicholas Earle of Sutherland, who died in the year 1399. Of the first of these are descended the Sutherlands of Berridale; of the second the family of Force in Caithness. 3 Alexander Sutherland son to Robert Earle of Sutherland, son to the above named Earle  
 63. Nicholas. Of him are come the Sleaght Kenneth wick Alister. 4 Sir Robert Gordon son to Alexander, and brother to John Earle of Sutherland last above mentioned. Of him are descended the families of Gordonstoun & Cluny.

There is Talk found in Sutherland, I have a peice of it.

A DESCRIPTION of the ISLAND of SHETLAND & the fishing thereabout, being an Extract out of a book intituled Englands Improvement by Captain John Smith who was imployed there, by the EARLE of PEMBROCK in the Year 1633. and stayed a whole twelve Month there.

The Land of Shetland lyeth North & by East & South or South & West, about 60 miles. But there many Islands belonging to Shetland which I shall have occasian to mention hereafter.

That which is most considerable, are the Sounds & Harbours. On the Westside of the southward point of Shetland, there is a good harbour and sound called St. Magnus; and on the Eastside near Sunbrough head is a fair sand Bay, where there is good Anchoring in ten or 12 fathoms. To the Northward of the last sound, there is another sound called Hambrough Haven, which is a Ladeplace for the Hamburgese Scots. Brace sound a gallant harbour, where many ships may by Land-lockt for all Winds.

About 9 or 10 leagues from the southward point of Shetland there is a Chanel that runneth through the land. The southpart of the land divided by the Chanel is called Stranbery; the other so divided or the north part is called

Laxford. Within this Chanel aforesaid are severall sounds or harbours: but the best & chiefest sound is Brace Sound or Broad sound, as before mentioned. Out of the Sound, the aforesaid Chanel doth run northward.

On the North part of Swanberg, lyeth the high Hill of Hanglix. From the said Hanglix, about 9 Leagues Northward,<sup>64</sup> by some Out Rocks called the Stars. To the Northward of the Starrs, there is a very good Harbour, called Bloom Sound. To the Northward of this last sound is another good Haven, called Sound, being the Northernmost or Northeast Sound or Haven belonging to the Island called Ounst.

There are others Havens or Sounds which ly through the Land between and about that part of Shetland called Laxford and the Island called Yelle. There are also other Islands and Sounds, which for brevity-sake I forbear to mention.

The Merchants which trade with the Inhabitants of Shetland are Hamburgers, Breamers, Luberghers, Scots & English.

The chief Inhabitants of the Islands are Scots: the meaner or inferiour sort are a mixed people of Danes and Scots.

The Islands of Shetland were given to King James by the King of Denmark with Queen Anne being part of her Dowry.

The Commodities of Shetland, which the Inhabitants do, for the most part trade withall, is Ling and Cod, which they take with hooks & Lines in small Boats called Yalls about the bigness of Gravesend Oars. The Ling they sell for 3<sup>d</sup> a peice, being a Ling of the largest size and is called a Gild-Ling. If smaller, then we have two for one or three for two and so proportionably. The Cod is sold for 2<sup>d</sup> the Gild-Cod, and is measured as the Ling. I bought of fishermen the Inhabitants of the Island called Ounst 1655<sup>1</sup> Gild-Ling, & 834 Gild-Cod, at 3<sup>d</sup> the Gild-Ling, & 2<sup>d</sup> the Gild-Cod; which Ling & Cod were taken by the said fishermen at several times in their small Boats & brought to my place of abode every morning as they were caught. The said Ling & Cod being very good & merchantable, were salted aboard the ship that landed me, & within seven weeks after my landing, I sent her

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<sup>1</sup> 11655 in the printed account.—ED.



for London with the said Fish to the Right Honourable the Earle of Pembrok.

65. There is also other small Fish which the Inhabitants do catch with Angles sitting on the Rocks, & in their small boats with hooks and lines in the Sounds and between the Islands. And these small Fish are very considerable: for although they cannot spend them, by reason of the multitude they take & have not industry to make use of them for transportation; yet the livers they preserve with the livers of the Ling & Cod, make Train-Oyl. but if it were improved, as taking them with Nets the Train-Oyl would amount to a considerable sum. And if this increase of trade were carried through the whole Islands, it would be a great encouragement to all merchants trading into those parts.

There were several other Merchants in the Island, where I did inhabit, that bought Ling & Cod of the Fishermen, so that the Quantity which I sent for England, was not above the fifth part taken in that Island; with which the whole quantity of fisch, that was bought by other Merchants, throughout the whole Islands of Shetland, being added together, would amount to a very considerable sum or Quantity, to the lading of many vessels, which might be much more improved, and increase Trading thereby, furnishing the Inhabitants with Money & Commodities.

In the Islands of Shetland there were Beeves and Sheep sold at a very reasonable rate. I bought for my own use, and the victualling of the ship sent to London, three Oxen for 3<sup>lb</sup> & at another time four Oxen for 5<sup>lb</sup> Which were fat, and about the bigness of the small sort of Cattel we have in England. There were also fat sheep sold for 2<sup>s</sup> 8<sup>d</sup> and 2<sup>s</sup> 6<sup>d</sup> per sheep. There were also other Creatures for food as Conies and Fowls.

The fewel for firing in Shetland is Peat & Turf. There may be salt pans set up there, and good salt made to serve all the fishing fleet. There are very good shores for landing & drying of Nets & making & drying fishes.

There is no night in the North of Shetland part of two moneths in the Year as June & July. In an Island North of Ounst, being not inhabited, but stockt with wild Cows & Conies. I did kill with my Birding peice ten couple of Conies

in one night shooting from a little before sunset to sunrising, <sup>66</sup>. and it was as light as a cloudy Winter day.

I do not remember any frost or snow in Shetland; if any, it was not of long continuance. The coldest weather is by reason of great Winds in the Winter quarter, the Wind blowing so violent, that no ship dare look on the North coast; so that the people of these Islands have little Commerce with other Nations in that Quarter. I can speak by experience, being blown down flat to the ground by the violence of the Wind, I was forced to creep on my hands & knees to the next Wall & going by the Wall got into an House: Sometimes it lasteth half a day & more.

There are several Towns in Shetland so called, being about eight or ten houses together, where they plow and sow Corn as Oats, which is their cheifest Bread; and if my memory do not much deceive me, there was good Barley growing in my time. But the land might be much improved, if the Inhabitants were industrious; they are like unto the Idle Irish, not improving any thing either by Sea or Land; spending that in the Winter which they get in the Summer; although their Winter might be very profitable unto them, if they were laborious and industrious as the Hollanders are.

The Goods and Commodities, that are vendible in Shetland are Hooks and Lines for the taking of Ling and Cod, Nets for the taking of Herrings, Strong beer, Bisket, Wheaten-meal, Salt, Pease, Fruits of all sorts, Strong-Water, Monmout Caps & many other particulars.

The Inhabitants of the Island of Ounst usually have a Bark that they trade with to Norway, where they may buy Timber ready framed; also Deal-boards, Tar, Ships, Barks and Boatts of all sorts and other necessities for their Isle.

With their small Fishing-boats called Yalls, they will row into the Main about two or three Leagues, more or less, where the Banks are that they lay their Hooks, and Lines for Ling & Cod, in one of these Boats rowing. With two men, and sometimes four, according to the largeness of the Boat. They do usually bring to shore, every morning, that they go to sea, <sup>67</sup>. about fifty or sixty Ling & Cod.

There are many Barrells of Herrings taken by the Inhabi-

tants with their small Boats in the Sounds and at sea not far from Land which are the gleanings of the Hollanders Busses. for the Busses driving at sea break the skull or shole of Herrings, and then the Herrings fly near the shore and through the Sounds, where these small Boats with the Nets they have, take them. But if they had better tacklings and Boats, they might take 500 Barrels for one, which would enrich the Islands, and by encreasing of trade, would augment His Majesties Revenues.

I was an Eye-witness of the Hollanders Busses fishing for Herrings on the Coast of Shetland, not far from Ounst one of the Northernmost Islands. Demanding the number of them I was informed by severall persons of quality, that the fleet consisted of 1500 sail, and there were about 20 Wasters, as they call them, ships carrying about 30 Guns a peice, being the Convoys of the Fleet Busses, which said Busses were of the burden of about 80 Tun.

There were also a small Fleet of Dogger Boats, which were of the burden of 60 Tun and upwards which did fish only with hooks and Lines for Ling and Cod. Many of these Boats and Busses came into several havens or sounds, to fit and trim themselves. One thing was observable that within 8 or 10 dayes, after the Dogger Boats went to sea, they came into the sound again so full laden, as they could swim. The certain number of Dogger Boats, I could not learn, but the general report was that they were about 400.

The Composition of the Hollanders, as I was informed after my coming into England, was an Annualrent of 100,000 lib. and 100,000 lib. in hand, but never hath been payed or brought into the Exchequer as I could hear of.

If the King would set out such a fleet of Busses for the Fishing trade in our own seas, and on our own grounds, and all strangers were discharged from fishing in these seas, and trade  
68. with Orkney & Shetland that the subjects of the three kingdoms only may have it, it would make our King rich and glorious, and the three Kingdomes happy not one would want bread, and God would be praised, and the King loved.

Ten thousand sail of forrain Ships and Vessels and above Employed and maintained by fishing on our Coasts; 200,000

Mariners and Fishers. The States of Holland received for custome of herrings and other salt fish above 300,000 lib. sterling. The profite of one year of all the fish taken in our seas by Forreiners amounts to 1000,0000 lib. sterling.

### The FERTILITY of the WOMEN in SHETLAND.

The Women in Shetland are generally fertile. My Cousin David Sibbald told me, that he spake with a married Couple, none of them above 50 years, and the Man and Woman both lean persons, who (as they told him themselves, and it was confirmed by their Neighbours) had in Marriage between them two, 33 children, most of them baptized, and many of them living. Many of them were Twins.

### The FRUITFULNESS of their SHEEP &c.

The sheep there ordinarily bring forth two or thrie at a time. Their Horses, which they call Shelties, some of which I have seen, are little bigger than Asses, but very durable.

## THE BURGH of HADINGTOUN.

This is an ancient Burgh Royal and Head of the Shire of East Lothian, pleasantly situated in an Arm of the River Tine, upon the Post rode twelve miles East from Edinburgh and under the Latitude 56. i. The town is well built, but by the frequent incursions of the English, many of their Monuments of Antiquity are destroyed. They have a fine Parochial Church standing without the East port of the Town by the 69. Riverside, which is the remaining part of a great Cross-Church, the Walls whereof and a large wide steeple are yet to be seen of fine hewn stone, not repaired. I have seen, when I was a child, some small fragments of Glass sticking in the Windows of that Old Church; and within the Walls of that Old Church toward the East end thereof standeth a stone altar of curious Workmanship about two ells in height.

Provest Slich younger told me, that they have a Charter granted by King Robert the Bruce. Their new Charter of the date 1624 includes great Priviledges, & favours, & notes of antiquity.



The foresaid Provost told me likewise that there was a Peal of three good Bells carried away by the English, when they left the town, after they had long kept out the same against the French; and that it was known, they belonged to Hadingtoun at their new Casting in Durhame, about six or seven years ago, by the High goat upon them, the armes proper to Hadingtoun.

Near a hundred years since, the half of the toun was burnt by a casual fire; after which time, it seems, arose that yearly Custome which is there, of the Bell-man's going through the Town with the Handbell and after tinkling of the same, to pronounce a Rhime willing the Inhabitants to guard against fire; and this is done every night at nine of the clock between Hallow tide & Candlemass.

Within the toun near to the East port, there is a great house called Saint Anne's Chappel to which, even unto this day, about fourscore houses within the toun are bound by their Charter to pay yearly a small few duty. By an ancient Institution, that House was to have a Chaplain, who was once in the year to sing a Psalm there, which was all the duty he was obliged to perform for his salary, being the few-duties above mentioned.

There was a Large Stone wall, now ruinous amongst the North side of the town.

Without the toun, upon the southwestside thereof on a Brae head at the River side, there are to be seen the Vestiges  
70. of an old fortification, round in form, named New-work, to this day.

On the side of the old church, there is a magnificent Tomb built within an Isle made for the purpose by the Earle of Lauderdale the late Duke of Lauderdale's father, made of black and white Marble. There is the lively Effigies of Chancellor Maitland and his Lady lying in their just dimensions, with Pillows under their heads all of them marble, richly gilded. At their feet are the statues of the Dukes father and mother, of the same matter & in the same posture. Underneath these, is a breast of black Marble reaching to the pavement and containing the Inscription, which, if it be cleanly rubbed, will be as bright as a Mirrour. In the higher part of

the Tomb, are statues of the Dukes Sisters representing them from the Girdle upward. On the right hand within the door of the Isle, is a Vault in which the Corpses are set upon Buffet stools, being let down thither, after the lifting up of some square stones, which have great Iron rings fastened to them for that end.

The River is passable at the East port of the Town by a stately stone Bridge of three great Arches, toward the West end whereof at the head of the Arch on the outside, there is a strong Iron cleek from which they were wont to hang Malefactors that were sentenced to dy. On the East side of the River, after you have passed that bridge, there is a goodly Village called NunGate having this denomination from a Monastery of Nuns, that had formerly been there where is yet standing an old Vaulted Chappel called St. Martins Chappel within an inclosed peice of ground. In this place the Inhabitants of the said Village still bury their dead.

In the southwest end of the Village is the house where John Knox was said to be born. John Major was borne at Glegorne.

About half a mile from this Bridge down the River there is another Bridge on the Northside of which remain the ruins of a stately Abbay built by Adama in the year 1182.

The Town is situated three miles from the sea, yet have <sup>71</sup> they the privilege of a Port at Aberlady, and an highway to it forty foot broad, as also they have another highway through Gladsmoor about three miles West from the toun eighty foot broad.

There are here two great fairs yearly, each of them lasting some dayes viz: St. Michel the 29 of Sept<sup>r</sup> and St. Peter the 29 of June. They have two weekly markets on Weddensday and Friday, well frequented and the best for corn in Scotland.

They are governed by a Provost Bailies Dean of Gild, Treasurer & Town Council. They bear for their Arms & Town Seal, a Goat buck passant, Argent and Azur.

Newmilns house is betwixt Hadingtoun and the Abbay on the river. Newmilns belongeth to the company with a considerable Village built lately for the Manufactorie men, the best in this countrie and indeed with priviledges by act of Parliament.

A TRUE and EXACT STATE of the YEARLY  
ANNUITY of FORTY THOUSAND  
POUNDS sterling payable to HIS  
MAJESTIE.

By the thirteenth Act of the first session of this Parliament, this Kingdom made offer to his Majesty of forty thousand pounds sterling yearly during his lifetime to be raised by way of Excise.

By the fourteenth Act of that session, there is eight thousand pounds sterling to be raised off the Inland-Salt, forrein Commodities, and exported Bestial; and thirty two thousand pounds sterling to be raised out of the respective Shires and Burghs of the Kingdom for the Bear, Ale and Aqua vitæ brewed and sold within the same in maner mentioned in the said Act.

It is expressly provided That the superplus of the Excise of the Inland Salt, forrein commodities, and exported Bestial, more than the eight thousand pounds sterling shall be imployed for the relief of such Shires and Burghs, as should be found to be overrated.

72. By several Abatements given to Shires & Burghs, that were over rated The forsaid sum of thirty two thousand pounds sterling is reduced to twenty nine thousand, three hundred, twenty five pounds sixteen shillings sterling.

The Remainder of the said forty thousand pounds being ten thousand six hundred threescore fourteen pounds four shillings Sterling is payed out of the Inland salt, exported Bestial & forrein commodities in manner following. to wit :

	Sterling, lib.
For the Excise of the forrein salt.	0400.
For the Excise of the remanent forrein Commodities.	9500.
For the Excise of the Inland salt.	0625.
For the Excise of the Exported Bestial.	0150.

Extending in the whole to the sum of ten thousand six hundred, threescore fifteen pounds sterling money.	10675 <sup>lib.</sup>
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Upon complaint of several Shires and Burghs, That they were unequally rated, The proportions of Excise were in several Shires & Burghs altered this last session of Parliament; and the samine ordained to be payed as followeth viz:

	Sterl. money.		
The Shire of Edinburgh prin <sup>l</sup>	2140 <sup>ll</sup>	00 <sup>sh</sup>	00 <sup>d</sup>
The Town of Edinburgh	2932	00	00
The Shire of Hadingtoun	1291	00	00
The Shire of Berwick	0610	16	00
The Shire of Roxburgh	0772	16	00
The Shire of Selkirk	0147	10	00
The Shire of Peebles	0137	10	00
The Shire of Lanerk	0968	08	00
The Town of Glasgow	1076	04	00
The Shire of Wigtoun	0271	12	00
The Shire of Drumfreis	0656	00	00 73.
The Stewartry of Kirkcudbright	0461	00	00
The Shire of Air	1639	16	00
The Shire of Dumbartown	0254	00	00
The Shire of Boot	0057	00	00
The Shire of Renfrew	0457	04	00
The Shire of Sterling	0960	08	00
The Shire of Linlithgow	0799	04	00
The Shire of Perth	2374	16	00
The Shire of Kincardin	0363	12	00
The Shire of Aberdeen	2418	19	00
The Shire of Bamf	0447	03	00
The Shire of Innerness	0794	08	00
The Shire of Elgin and Nairn	0596	04	00
The Shire of Cromartie	0024	00	00
The Shire of Argile	0443	16	00
The Shire of Fife and Kinross	3608	08	00
The Shire of Forfar	1024	04	00
The Town of Dundee	0718	04	00
The Shire of Sutherland	0072	12	00
The Shire of Caithness	0153	04	00
The Shire of Orkney and Zetland	0243	16	00
The Shire of Clackmanan	0206	02	00



	[l	sh	d]
The Shire of Ross	0204	00	00
Extending yearly in Sterling money to	29325	16	00
Summa of the forrein Commodities, Inland			
Salt, and exported Bestial is	10675	00	00
Summa totalis is	40.000	16	00

This exceeds the forty thousand pound sixteen shillings sterling yearly.

### ACT of EXCISE.

74. The Commissioners of Excise in the respective Shires and Burghs, who are the persons that have greatest interest therein, are by the Act of Parliament lyable to his Majesty and those appointed by him for the Excise of their respective Shires and Burghs: And to pay in the same at four termes Whitsunday, Lammas, Martimass and Candlemass. And to have their relief off the Shires and Burghs.

The saids Commissioners are impowered to pronounce Decrees ag<sup>st</sup> the Deficients & poynd upon the samine or raise general Letters there upon; and if need be, to quarter souldiers till payment of the Deficiency & Charges.

An ACCOUNT of the LAW and GOVERNMENT of SCOTLAND given to me by the right Honourable SIR GEORGE MACKENZIE His Majestie's Advocate.

#### TIT. I. Of the LAW of SCOTLAND.

The Romans having studied exactly the Principles of Equity & Justice, their Emperour Justinian did cause digest all their Laws into one Body, which is now called by all Nations The Civill Law. and as this Civill Law is much respected generally over all Europe; so it is received in Scotland, except where express Law or Custome has receded from it. And by the

Common Law in our Acts of Parliament is meant the Civil Law.

Churchmen also made a Body of Law for regulating matters Ecclesiastick and this is called the Canon Law. and though it was compiled by several private men at the command of Popes, and so has here no positive Authority since the Reformation; yet our Ecclesiastick Rights were settled before the Reformation. And because many things in that Law were founded upon Justice and Equity, and exactly calculated for all Churchmen therefore that Law is yet much respected amongst us, especially in what relates to Conscience and Church Affairs.

The particular Laws and Customes of each Nation are called their Municipal Law; & our Municipal Law of Scotland consists either in our Written Law, or our Unwritten Law.

Our Written Law comprehends 1<sup>o</sup> Our Statutory Law, which consists of our Statutes or Acts of Parliament. 2<sup>o</sup> The Acts of *Sederunt* which are the Statutes made by the Lords of Council and Session, by vertue of a particular Act of Parliam: empowering them to make such Constitutions as they shall think fit for ordering the procedure & forms of administrating Justice. And they are called Acts of *Sederunt*, because they are made by the Lords sitting in Judgement. 3<sup>o</sup> The Books of *Regiam Majestatem* which are generally lookt upon by us as a part of our Law; and they and the *Leges Burgorum* and the other Treatise joyned by Sken to them are call'd the Old Books of our Law by many express Acts of Parliament. though the Books of *Regiam Majestatem* were originally but the Works of one private Lawyer writing by way of Institutions and are now very much abrogated by Custom.

Our Unwritten Law comprehends 1<sup>o</sup> The constant Tract of Decisions past by the Lords of the Session, which is considered as Law; and the Lords very much respect their own single Decisions and though they may, yet they used not to recede from them, except upon grave considerations. 2<sup>o</sup> These Customes which have been universally received amongst us, the tacite consent of the people operating as much in these as their express consent doth in making Statutes. And such is the force of consuetude or custome, that if a Statute has, after

a long standing, never been in observance, or having been, has run in desuetude, consuetude prevails over the Statute, till it be renewed either by a succeeding Parliament, or by a Proclamation from the Council: for though the Council cannot make Laws yet they may revive them.

## TIT. II. Of JURISDICTION and JUDGES in general.

Having resolved to follow Justinian's method, to the end there may be as little difference found betwixt the Civil Law and ours as can be; and that the Reader may not be distracted by different methods, I do resolve first to lay down what concerns the persons of whom the Law treats 2° What concerns 26. the things themselves treated of, such as Rights Obligations &c 3° The Actions whereby these Rights are pursued. *Personæ, Res Actiones.*

The chief Persons treated of in Law are either Civil or Ecclesiastick the chief of both which are Judges. And for understanding their duty, it is fit to know, that Jurisdiction is a power granted to a Magistrate to cognosce upon and determine in causes, and to put them to execution in such manner, as either his Commission, Law or Practique doth allow.

All Jurisdiction flows originally from the King; and none have power to make Deputes except it be contained in their Commission. If this Depute appoint any under him, that Sub-Depute is properly called a Substitute, and every Judge is answerable for the injustice committed by his Depute.

Jurisdiction is either Cumulative or Privative. Cumulative as when two Judges have power to Judge the same thing. And generally it is to be remembred, that the King is never so denuded, but that he retains an inherent Power to make other Judges with the same power that he gave in former Commissions. And thus he may erect Lands in a Regality within the bounds of a Sherifship, and Burghs Royal within the bounds of a Regality. And these bounds within which a Judge may exercise his Commission are called his Territory. So that if any Judge exercise Jurisdiction without his Territory, his sentence is null. And amongst these, who have a Cumulative Jurisdiction, he who first cites, can only Judge & this is called *Jus præventionis*.

Privative Jurisdiction is that, whereby one Judge has the sole power, as the Lords of Session have, in Judging all Competitions betwixt such as have Heretable Rights &c and there can be no prevention in this case.

Jurisdiction is founded to any Judge; either because the 77. Defender dwells within his Territory, which is called *sortiri forum ratione domicilii* or 2<sup>o</sup> because the Crime was committed in his Territory, which is called *ratione delicti*. 3<sup>o</sup> If the person to be pursued, have any Estate within the Territory, though he live not within the same, he may be persued by any Action to affect that Estate, which is called *ratione rei sitæ*.

A Jurisdiction is said to be prorogate, when a person not otherwise subject to it submitts to it.

All Judges with us must take the Oath of Allegiance and the Test, whereby they swear to maintain the Government of Church & State as it is now established and an Oath *de fidelis administratione*, before he Judge; and no excommunicate person nor rebell can judge by our Law.

If a man be pursued before a Judge, who is not competent, he may complain to the Lords of Session and they will grant Letters of Advocation, whereby they will Advocate that is to say call it to themselves: And if after these Letters are intimate to that Judge, he yet proceed his Decreet will be null *spreto mandato Judicis superioris*. But if that person compare before a Judge, though otherwayes incompetent, and propone Defences, he cannot afterwards decline him.

Jurisdictions are divided with us into Supreme & inferiour Jurisdictions.

The Supreme Courts of Scotland are the Parliament, the Privy Council, the Lords of Session, the Criminal Court, the Exchequer, and the High Admiral.

The Inferiour Courts are Sherifs, Stewards, Lords of Regality, Commissars, Inferiour Admirals, Magistrates of Burghs Royall, Barons and Justices of Peace.

No inferiour Judge can judge in Cases relating to such as are 78. cousin germans to him or of a nearer degree either of Affinity or Consanguinity. But there is so much trust reposed in the Lords of Session that by a special statute, they can only be declined in Cases relating to their Fathers, brothers sons,



Nephews or Uncles; which is likewise extended to degrees of Affinity and to the Lords of Privy Councill and Exchequer and the Commissioners of Justiciary and to all Judges within the Kingdom. The Members of the Colledge of Justice have this Priviledge, that they cannot be pursued before any inferiour Judge.

### TIT. III.

#### Of the SUPREME JUDGES & COURTS of SCOTLAND.

The King is the Author and Fountain of all Power. Our King is an absolute monarch, having as much power as any King or Potentate what soever. The special Priviledges which he has are called his Prerogatives Royal; such as that he only can make Peace or War, call Parliaments, Conventions, Convocations of the Clergy; and generally all Meetings called without his special command are punishable. He only can remit Crimes, legitimate Bastards, name Judges and Counsellours, give Tutours dative & naturalize strangers: and is Supreme over all persons and in all Causes civil as well as Ecclesiastick.

The Parliament was of old only the King's Baron Court; in which all Freeholders were obliged to give sute and presence in the same manner that men yet appear at other Head Courts. And therefore since we had Kings long before we had Parliaments it is ridiculous to think that the Kings power flowed from them. The Parliament is now called upon 40 days, though it may be adjourned upon twenty; but of old, it was called by Breves out of the Chancellary. It consists of three Estates viz. the Archbishops and Bishops; and before the Reformation all Abbots and Miter'd Priours sate as Churchmen. 2<sup>o</sup> The Barons in which Estate are comprehended all Dukes, Marquesses, Earles, Viscounts, Lords and the Commissioners for the Shires: for of old, all Barons who held of the King, did come; but the Estates of Lesser Barons not being able to defray this charge, they were allowed to send Commissioners for every Shire and generally every Shire sends two who have their charges born by the Shire. 3<sup>o</sup> The Commissioners of Burghs Royal, each whereof is allowed one and the Town of Edinburgh two. Though all the three Estates must be cited, yet the Parliament may proceed, albeit any one

Estate were absent, or being present, would disassent. The Legislative Power is only in the King; and the Estates of Parliament only consent; and in Parliament the King has a Negative Voice, whereby he may not only hinder any Act to pass; but even any Overture to be debated. The Acts of Parliament must be proclaimed upon forty dayes, that the Lieges may know them.

We have another Meeting of the three Estates called the Convention of Estates, which is now called upon twenty dayes, and proceeds in the same way, that the Parliament doth, differing only from it, in that the Parliament can both impose Taxations and make Laws, whereas the Convention of Estates can only impose or rather offer Taxations and make Statutes for uplifting that particular Taxation, but can make no Laws. And of old I find by the Registers of the Conventions, the eldest whereof now extant is in anno 1583; That the Conventions of Estates consisted of any number of the three Estates called off the streets summarly by the King; and yet they cryed down or up money and judged Processes which now they do not.

The Privy Council is constitute by a special Commission from the King, and regularly their Power extends to matters of publick Government. In order to which they punish all Riots, for so we call breach of the peace. they sequesterate Pupils, give Aliments to them & to Wives who are severely used by their Husbands; and many such things, which require such summar procedure, as cannot admit of the delays necessary before other Courts. And yet if any of these dip upon matter of Law, (for they are only Judges *in facto*, this would be clear) they remit the cognition of it to the Session and stop <sup>so.</sup> till they hear their report. The Council also delay Criminal Executions and sometimes change one Punishment into another: but they cannot remit Capital Punishments. They may also adjourn the Session, or any other Court. It has its own President in the Chancellours absence & its own signet or seal. All who are cited to compear here, must be personally present, because ordinarily the Pursuer concludes that they ought to be personally punished. All Diets there are peremptore. All Debate is by Writ, no Advocate being allowed to plead, because the Council are only Judges in matters of fact.

The Lords of Council & Session are Judges in all matters of

Civil right. Of old they were chosen by the Parliament, and were a Commission of Parliaments but the present Model was fixt & established after the Model of the Parliam: of Paris, by King James the fifth. Of old it consisted of seven Ecclesiasticks & seven Laicks and the President was a Churchman; but now all the fifteen are Laicks and there sit with them four Noblemen, who are called Extraordinary Lords, & were allowed to sit, to learn rather than decide. But now they vote after the Ordinary Lords. All the Lords are named by the King and by statute cannot be admitted till they be twenty five years of age, and except they have a thousand Merks or twenty Chalders of Victual in yearly Rent. Nine are a Quorum.

Crimes of old were judged by the Justice General, Justice Clerk and two Justice Deputes; but now four Lords of the Session are adjoyned to the Justice General & Justice Clerk and they are called the Commissioners of the Justiciary because they sit by a speciall Commission only, four of which number make a Quorum in time of Session, three in time of Vacance and two at Circuit Courts.

The Exchequer is the King's Chamberlain Court: wherein he Judges what concerns his own Revenue. It consists of the Treasurer, (in whose place are sometimes named Commissioners of the Treasury) the Treasurer Depute and as many of the Lords of Exchequer as His Majesty pleases.

81. The High Admiral has Commission from the King to judge in all maritime affairs, not only in Civil, but also in Criminal Cases where the Crime is committed at sea or within Floud-Mark. Nor can the Lords of the Session advocate causes from him, though they can reduce his Decrets as he doth the Decrets of all inferiour Admirals or Admiral Deputes: for many Heretours are constitute Admirals within themselves by a Right from the High Admiral since his Gift, or from the King before it.

#### TIT. IV. Of INFERIOUR JURISDICTIONS and COURTS.

The Sherif is the King's Chief and ancient Officer, for preserving the Peace, and putting the Laws in execution. He has both a Civil and Criminal Jurisdiction and his Commis-

sion is under the Great Seal. He is obliged to raise the Hue and Cry after all Rebels and to apprehend them, when required; to assist such as are violently dispossessed; to apprehend such as say Mass. or trouble the peace and take Caution for their appearance. He nor no Inferiour Judge can hold Courts in time of Vacance in Civil Cases, without a Dispensation from the Lords of Session: but in Criminal Cases, he needs no Dispensation, because Crimes should be instantly punished.

He is Judge in all Crimes, except the Pleas of the Crown: but Murder he can judge, if the Murderer was taken with red hand that is to say, immediately committing the Murder, in which case he must proceed against him within three suns; and in theft he may Judge, if the thief was taken with the fang.

The Sherif is also Judge competent to punish Bloudwits. for which he may fine in fifty pounds Scots, and no higher and for Contumacy he can fine no higher then ten pounds money foresaid.

A Lord of Regality is he, who has the Land-holding of him, and his own Land erected with a Jurisdiction equal to the Justices in Criminal Cases and to the Sherif in Civil Cases. He has also Right to all the Moveables of Delinquents and <sup>82</sup>. Rebels, who dwell within his own Jurisdiction, whether these Moveables be within his Regality or without the same. And because he has so great power, therefore no Regality can legally be granted except in Parliament.

The Lord of Regality has also, by his Election, power to repledge from the Sherifs and even from the Justices in all Cases except Treason and the Pleas of the Crown; that is to say, to appear & crave that any dwelling within his Jurisdiction may be sent back to be judg'd by him, and he is obliged to find Caution, that he shall do Justice upon the Malefactours whom he repledges, within year and day. And this Caution is called Culreach.

The Stewart is the Kings Sherif within the Kings own proper Lands; and these were erected, where the Lands had been erected before in Earledomes or Lordships: for else the King appointed only a Bailie in them, and these Jurisdictions are called Bailleries. And all these viz: the Sherif, the



Stewart and the Lord of Regality proceed in their Courts after the same way, and each of them has a Headburgh, where they hold their Courts, and where all Letters must be executed and registered.

The Prince of Scotland has also an Appanage or Patrimony, q<sup>ch</sup> is erected in a Jurisdiction called the Principality. The Revenue comes into the Exchequer, when there is no Prince; but when there is one, he has his own Chamberlain.

Justices of Peace are these, who are appointed by the King or Privy Council, to advert to the keeping of the Peace; and they are Judges to Riots, Servants fees &c. and many such relating to good neighbourhood exprest in the Instructions given them by the Parliament and are named by the Council.

Every Heretour may hold Courts, for causing his Tenants pay his Rent, and if he be infest cum curiis, he may decide s<sup>s</sup>. betwixt Tenant and Tenant in small debts, and may judge such as commit bloud upon his own ground, though his land be not erected in a Barony. But if his Land be erected in a Barony, which the King can only do, he may, like the Sheriff, unlaw for Bloudwits in fifty pounds and for absence, in ten. And, if he have power of Pit and Gallows, he may hang or drown in the same maner as the Sherif can.

#### TR. V. OF ECCLESIASTICK PERSONS.

Since the Reformation, the King is come by our Law, in place of the Pope, and all Rights to Church lands must be confirmed by him, else they are null. His Majesty only can call Convocations of the Clergy, for so we call our National Assemblies. His Majesties Commissioner sits in them, and has a Negative.

We have two Archbishops and twelve Bishops, and they are thus elected; The King sends to the Chapter a *Congé d'eslire* which is a french word signifying a power to elect; and with it, a Letter recommending a person therein named, and the Chapter returns their Election; where upon the King grants a Patent to the person and a Mandate to the Archbishop or Bishops to consecrate him, both which pass the Great Seal.

The Archbishops and Bishops have the sole power of calling Synods within their own Dioceses and in these they name the Brethren of the Conference, who are like to the Lords of Articles in Parliament and by their advice, the Bishops depose, suspend and manage.

Bishops have their Chapters, without whose consent or the major part, the Bishop cannot alienate, which major part must sign the deeds done by the Bishop: and it is sufficient, if those of the Chapter sign at any time, even after the Bishop, but it must be in his lifetime. Nor are Minors, or absents counted, and one having two Benefices has two Votes. But the appending of the Seal is by special statute, declared to be sufficient in Deeds done by the Archbishop of St. Andrews, without the subscriptions of the Chapter.

A Parson or Rector Ecclesiæ is he, who is presented to the whole stipend *jure proprio*. but because of old Personages <sup>84.</sup> were bestowed on Monasteries, therefore they sent Vicars, who served them, and who got a share of the stipend for their pains, either *ad placitum*, and they were called simple Vicars: or for life and they were called perpetual Vicars. And after the Reformation, the Churches, which so belonged to them, continued Vicarages still, the Titular, who came in place of the Convent, retaining the Right to the Personage duties.

There were, in time of Popery, Collegiate Churches built and doted by Kings and great men for singing of Mass, which were govern'd by a Provost, and some for singing, who were called Prebends. And because some Parish Churches were wide, some were allowed to build a Chappel for their private Devotion. And since the Reformation, those Chaplainries and Prebendries are allowed to be bestowed by the Patron upon Bursers in Colledges, notwithstanding the Foundations.

For understanding all these, it is fit to know, that the Primitive Church either to invite men to build and dote, or to reward such as had, did allow such as had built, or had bestowed the ground, whereon to build, or had doted a Church already built; either to present alone, if they were the only Benefactours or by turns, if they were mo, and they were called Patrons or *Advocati Ecclesiarum*.

When a Church vaiks, the Patron must present within six

moneths a fit person to the Bishop, else the Right of Presentation belongs to the Bishop *Jure devoluto*. But if the Bishop refuse, the Patron must complain to the Archbishop: and if he also refuse or delay, the Privy Council will grant Letters of Horning against the Bishop, to receive the person presented.

Upon this presentation, the Bishop causes serve an Edict on nine dayes, wherein all persons are after divine service, advertised to object why such a man should not be their Minister. And if none object, the Bishop confers the Church and Benefice upon the Person presented and this is  
85. called a Collation. After which the Bishop causes enter him who is thus collated, by causing give him the Bible and the Keys of the Church and this is called Institution. Presentation gives only *Jus ad rem*, and Institution *Jus in re*, and is as a Seasine.

If the Bishop be Patron himself, he confers *pleno Jure* and the Presentation and Collation are the same.

Bishops also have Mensal Churches so called, because they are *de mensa Episcopi*, being a part of his Patrimony, in which he serves by his Vicar and plants as Diocesan Bishop. And if a Town or Parish resolve to make a second Minister when they are not Patrons, this is called a Stipendiary Minister; and he is Collated and Instituted also. But the Patron's Presentation is sufficient in Prebendries and other Benefices, which have not *curam animarum*, & that without the necessity of Collation or Institution, the Bishop having no other interest in the Benefices, but in so far as they concern the care of souls.

If the Bishop refuse a person, who is qualified, recourse must be had to the Archbishop; and if the Archbishop refuse, then the Council will give Letters of Horning to charge the Ordinary to receive the person presented; and the Patron may, during the refusal, retain the whole fruits of the Benefice in his own hand, though ordinarily Vacant Stipends are allotted by the Parliament for Universities and other publick uses.

By Act of Parliament, with us all Ministers must have a competent stipend, not below eight Chalders Victual or eight

hundred Merks (except there be just reason to give less) together with a Manse and Gleebe.

The Manse *a manendo*, is the place where the Minister is to dwell. The Gleebe from *Gleba terræ*, is a peice of Land for fodder and corn to his beasts. If there was a Manse of old belong to the Parson or Vicar, the Minister has right to it; if there was none, the Parishioners must build one, not exceeding one thousand pounds and not beneath 500 Merks, at the sight of the Bishop of the Diocese or such Ministers as he shall appoint with two or three of the most discreet men of <sup>86.</sup> the Parish, as also the Heritors are lyable to repair the Manse, but the present Incumbent is oblig'd to leave it in as good condition as they gave it to him.

The Ministers Gleebe is to comprehend four acres of Arable Land, or sixteen sums grass, Where there is no arable Land, which is to be designed out of the Lands which belonged of old to Abbots, Priors, Bishops, Friars, or any other Kirklands within the Parish, with freedome of foggage, pasturage for a horse and two cows, feuel, fail and divot. Which Gleebs are to be designed by Ministers named by the Bishop, with the advice of two of the most honest and godly of the Parishioners and the Designation is to be signed by the Designers.

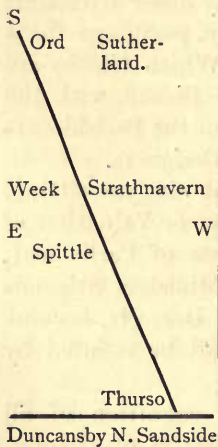
There is a Committee of the Parliament alwayes sitting, called the Commission for plantation of kirks or Valuation of Teynds, consisting of so many of every Estate of Parliament, who have power to modify and augment Ministers Stipends and to unite and disjoyn churches &c. whose Decrees, because they are a Committee of Parliament; cannot be reduced by the Session or any other Judicature.

The Primitive Christians remitted the cognition of all Cases that related to Religion, as the matters of Divorce, Bastardy, the protection of dying men's Estates, to their Bishops: and such as they imployed under them were called Officials and are with us called Commissars and called therefore *Judices Christianitatis*. And they are therefore ye only Judges in Divorce, because it is the breach of a Vow; and to scandal because it is an offence against Christianity; and of Teynds and Benefices, because these are the Patrimony of the Church and in all matters referred to Oath if the same exceed



not forty pounds Scotts because an Oath is an Religious Ty.

Every Bishop has his Commissar, who has his Commission from the Bishop only; and this extends no further than the Constituents Diocese. But the Archbishop of St. Andrews has power to name four Commissars who are called the Commissars of Edinburgh, because they sit there, and they only are Judges to Divorce upon Adultery and can only declare marriages null for Impotency and to Bastardy, when it has any connexion with Adultery or Marriage and they only may reduce the sentences of all the Inferiour Commissars though the Lords of the Session may reduce even their Decrees and Sentences. They have Instructions from the King, which are their Rule; & these are likewise recorded in the Books of Sederunt of the Session.



## ANSWERS to the GENERAL QUERIES concerning CAITH- NESS given in by M<sup>r</sup> WILLIAM DUNDAS.

### SCHEME of CAITHNESS.

1 The Sherifdome of Caithness in its situation doth much resemble a right angled Triangle, from the Ord-Hill which is upon the German Ocean and which is the only entry to the Countrey from the South by land (albeit so strait that two men can hardly mount the hill abreast, which is very steep) to the Northwest corner at Sand side head may be supposed the Hypotenuse from the same Hill, a line North in the middle whereof stands Week facing the German Ocean, till ye come to Duncansbay head, may represent one side of the right Angle & from that head a line West, (near the middle whereof stands Thurso) facing Pentland firth till ye come to Sandsidehead, may represent the other side.

The Countrey in general is rather uneven by easy Ascents & Descents than Hilly. That part toward the Hypotenuse is

the more mountainous, and yet hath many straths and spots of Meadow and Arable Ground, bearing good Bear and Black Oats, the only Grain of the Countrey, and the whole hath good pasturage for Cows, Sheep and Goats. The other two <sup>88.</sup> are full of good Meadow and Pasture, but most fertile of the saids two Grains. Few parts are far from good Moss, which furnishes the Countrey with fire. And where there is no meadow, Links or arable ground, the rest is less or more heathy as it is distant from the sea, in which there are great store of Black Cock, and Heath hens, especially toward the Hills and Moorfoul all over. There are but few Hares and Patridges, especially toward the sea, because of the great numbers of Hawks, which have their Airies in all the Promontories on that Coast. The people for the most part, speak both Irish and English. But if ye suppose a Parallel to the Hypotenuse drawn from Week to Thurso, these on the Eastside of it speak most part English, and those on the Westside Irish; and the last have Ministers that preach to them in both Languages. Near the center of the Triangle is Spittle hill, of a long but easy Ascent; the place of Rendevous, when the Inhabitants design, or are commanded to any Expedition.

2 As to Plants, Cairmuks a Gentleman there, who studies Medicine, can give the best account. Abundance of Lead-Ore at Dinnet: Copper at Oldwick; and Iron-Ore in many places.

3 The Forrests of Moravins and Berridail have plenty of red Dear and Roes. There is but little Wood, because of the Gusts from the North west sea; and that which is at Berridail is Birch rising to no great height. Other Planting doth hardly overtop the Walls of the Enclosures. There are abundance of springs over all the Countrey. there are two near Brebsterdoran, which continually cast up as much water as would make a Mill go Summer and Winter. There is one betwixt Halkirk and Spittle blessed by some Saint and much revered & frequented by the Commons both for Religion and Medicine; another in the Bay betwixt Thurso and Scrabster, far within the Floud mark, which in the smooth <sup>89.</sup> sands at an Ebb water doth throw out, at several Vents, a

great deal of fresh Water, which they say was occasioned by the fall of a Saint; that used to walk there, because the Vents resemble the print of a man's fingers mouth, eyes &c. The Rivers take name from the places where they empty themselves in the sea. The southmost is the Water of Beridail arising from the hills, running East, and entering into the sea a little below the Bridge. Next the Water of Dumbeth arising and running the same way. thirdly that of Week arising from the Lochs of Watting, Scarmlet and Tachingaw, running east and which hath a Wooden Bridge at Week. Fourthly that of Ris arising from the Loch of Waster, running Northeast a mile to the sea. fifthly the Water of Thurso, arising from Lochmore and running North, degorgeth at Thurso. 6<sup>thly</sup> that of Fors arising from the Loch of Broubster, and running as the last. Besides these Lochs there is the Loch of Duren, wherein many Swans do breed and feed, the Loch of Caddel and the Loch of Alterwall. In all the rivers, particularly that of Thurso, there are good salmon fishings and they are pretty rapid, except that of Week. The Lochs abound with trouts of diverse kinds, and Eels, of a huge lenth and bigness. In Wattin there is a fish as big as a salmon: but few or none of them have been taken since the English were there, who used to fish them.

4 Scrabster Road two miles westward from Thurso is a good and secure place for ships of any number or burden to ride at, being defended by Holburnhead. The harbours for livering and loading are Thurso water (Week, Staxigo, Murkle, Ham for small Vessels) A south East Moon makes High Water. The Promontories are 1 Sandsidehead at the West end of Caithness, pointing North to the opening of Pentland firth on the West end thereof. 2 Holburn-head. 3 Dinnethead, both pointing North to the firth. 4 Duncansbay-head which is the North east point of Caithness where the Firth is but 12 miles over. Near it is the ordinary ferry  
90. to Orkney called Duncansbay, and by West that, an Island about two miles in lenth belonging to Caithness called Stroma, some of the Inhabitants have the second sight, by west that, are several Whirlepoools in the sea, with many contrary Tides, that run in the firth with a strong current all at

once, which in dead calm Weather occasions both wonder and hazard to strangers, and the ferriers themselves do not then pass but near the High or Low Water, when the Currents do not run. 5 Noshead pointing Northeast. 6 Clythness pointing East. The whole Coast is high Rocks except Thurso, Murkle and Ris bayes and some other small Inletts.

5 There are many foundations of ruinous houses supposed to belong to the Picts, to be seen every where, many long stones erected in several places, and sometimes many of them together: but the Inscriptions, if any have been, are worn out.

6 It is reported, that the Danes were once beat on the Moor of Clair Dane betwixt Murkle and Thurso, from which that place hath its name. There have been many Inrodes and Depredations committed by Caithness on Southerland and Strathnavern & by them on Caithness. In the time of the late troubles one Alaster Macdonald an Irish man, and Niel Williamson a Strathnavernian came to Thurso with about an hundred armed men on a Saterday, and demanded a great sum of money to save the Town and Countrey from Plunder: and because it was not presently raised, they drunk all night: and nixt day came to the Church yard. When the people were at sermon, with a resolution to burn Church and all. Sir James Sinclair of Murkle and some other Gentlemen and Inhabitants about 14 came out of the Church and having got some arms, did set upon the Robbers and killed their two Captains and several others upon the place, having lost but one of their number, but all of them were wounded.

The late George Earle of Caithness having dispoed his own and his Grand Uncles Estate with all his Titles of Honour and <sup>91.</sup> Jurisdictions to Campbell of Glenurchie, in prejudice of his Grand Uncles Son, who was appearand Heir, Glenurchie did possess himself of all. George the appearand Heir went into Caithness and by assistance of some friends did repossess his Fathers Estate and did some prejudice to the new Earles Houses. Upon which the Earle obtained a party of the Kings forces, and what friends he could make to assist the Sherif of Innerness to repone him to the possession. but he having gathered together about 300 men did enter the Coun-



treys without the Sherif, Earle George knowing of his Motion, had gathered two or three hundred Commons together, who having gone to Week, were followed at a distance by E. John. But E. George's men, being far inferiour in number and arms, resolved to return to their Houses quietly, and going without care or order, as from a fair, E. John who waited this opportunity, set upon them about a mile from Week and killed and drowned in the Water of Week above 80, beside many wounded, most part after they had thrown away their Arms and sought Quarter. for which and other crimes there is Process of Treason depending against the said E. John

7 There is nothing peculiar to them.

8 I know no Monasteries. The Cathedral of Caithness is in Southerland which with Stratnavern and Assint makes the Diocese of Caithness. The churches are Rae, Halkirk, and Latheran, on the Hypotenuse, then Thurso, Olrick, Dinnet, Duncansbay, to the North, Week to the East, and Bower & Wattin in the middle. There hath been a Hospital called St. Magnus his hospitall at Spittle. In every little Village or Manour there are Chappels.

9 The Shire gives Title to the Earle, who is also Lord Sinclair of Berridail. Of old, the Earles of Caithness, Marshal and Lord Oliphant had each the third Ridge of Caithness. The first resided at Castle Sinclair, the second at the Castle of Akergill on the North; the last at Oldweek Castle on the South; all on the East sea, and near to one another.

92. 10 The E. of Caithness was Heretable Justiciar of Caithness, Southerland Stratnavern and Assint; Heretable Sherif and Chamberlain of Caithness. And there is a Commissariat for the Spiritual Jurisdiction. The Judges and Clerks reside most at Thurso and do only keep Head-Courts at Week and date their Registrations there.

11 Week is a Burgh Royal and Thurso is but a Burgh of Barony though the more populous. The first founded by the Earles of Caithness or Lords Oliphant, the second but of late, by the Lairds of Murkle. They export Beef, Tallow, Hides, Butter, Cheese, Meal, Bear, Plaidins. Some Oyl, wild Leather and Furies, Salmon, white fish and slates; and return Wine Brandy, Salt, Lime, Cloth, Silks & Cramery-Ware.

12. The Militia-Regiment commanded by Tarbut, and troupe commanded by the Earle of Caithness is proportioned with Southerland and Ross & Strathnavern. There is an old Castle called Girnego, but the King hath no property there.

The most considerable of the Gentry are of the name of Sinclair descended of the Earles Family. Murkle's Grandfather was second brother to George Earl of Caithness. Maye's Predecessour was third brother to the said George's father. Of Maye's Family, Dumbeth and his brethren are descended. Ulbster and Brimes are descended of the said George's second brother. Rattir is of a third brother of the said E. George; so Freswick Din is of the said E. George his Grandfather and Telstame is a Cadet of him. Stricock is of the said E. George himself. The other surnames are Moray of Pennyland, descended of one of the sixteen Brothers of Tullibarden. Innes of Sandside is but late there. Innes of Thursater elder; Mouat of Swingie, the Caddels and Budges are old, but of no Estates. The rest are not considerable.

**SURVEY of the TOWN of ABERDEEN in its situation &c done by M<sup>r</sup> SKENE late Bailie there & communicated by Bailie WALTER ROBERTSON. consisting of VIII Chapters from p. 83 to 104. See Philopoliticus Aberd: 1685.**

Chap. I. containing the situation of Aberdeen & its Longitude & Latitude.

Chapter II. Concerning the description of Aberdeen.

Chapter III Concerning the Antiquity of Aberdeen.

Chap. IV. Concerning the fidelity and loyal duty which the Citizens of Aberdeen have alwayes had to Kings their Sovereigns.

Chap. V. Marks for the Road and Harbour of Aberdeen.

Chap. VI. Concerning the Government of Aberdeen.

Chap. VII. A short account of some particulars that have been done of late years.

Having given an Account of the Constitution & Govern: of Aberdeen in the former Chap: it may seem expedient to set down some few things worthy of remark over and above the ordinary affairs in Council, that have been done thir few years lately past, for the due commendation of these Magistrates yet living, and the encouragement of these that are to succeed in the Government of this City. And for that end I will begin with the latest & so a little backward, as most obvious to the memory of beholders. If this were, or carefully had been set down, we might have had an excellent and perfect account of all that was worthily done by our Predecessours.

Formerly I did observe the great burdens and debts this town was lying under, when this present Provost was first elected to this his Charge. For our Common Treasury is mostly exhausted with stipendiaries and other incidencies: and such have been our losses and givings out since the late troubles first began, upon publick and particular accounts; that we were necessitate to take up the several sums of Money which were mortified to our Bursers in schools and Colledges, to the poor and to Hospitals &c which extended to vast sums as the Counts of our several Office-bearers do evidence. Yea our Cess and Excise hath come so short of the total that is set upon us, that at some years, all that was or could be collected from the severall Brewers, came but about to the half of the sum. Whereby our Toun's Treasurers were constrained to make up the Excise out of their own private Estates, to prevent Parties from coming to quarter upon the toun. Whereby it came to pass within thir few years, that the Town was found  
 94, resting to one of our Treasurers at the Ballance of Compt 22000 lib.

Upon which account it was like there should have been no way left to any person to be Magistrate or Treasurer if some extraordinary Course had not been taken; if we had not been resting the vast & great sums we are still lying under, to our own Mortifications & Hospitals, it had been thus with us 30 years ago.

This present Provost first saw a necessity to lay on great taxations of more than ordinary sums, to help to pay a part of such principal sums and Annualrents as were most pressing.

This bred great grumblings and protestations among the Inhabitants & much hearing before the Lords of the Session. But to help this, and to take away that ground, he prosecutes a project that had been long in agitation ever since the King's Restauration, and had cost very considerable sums in prosecuting, as may be seen in former Compts from the Year 1660 to that time, but all without success, the cause of which needs not be mentioned.

But this Provost being much concerned & burdened in his mind to perceive that this Ruine was likely to fall under his hand, by power and moyen, having got an Act of Council, empowering him to do his uttermost; whereby to obtain any signature for the passing of the seals for imposing an Excise for freeing the Town of its burden, he went with all diligence about it, till he brought it to a period, as it stands this day. Which though it also have raised a grumbling amongst the Brewers & others concerned, at first, yet it may be evident that the Inhabitants in aftertimes, yea and all that have a due regard to the standing of the publick weal, will be found to acknowledge, that he hath acquit himself as a worthy Magistrate and one that hath made conscience of his Oath at his Election and doing so much to set Aberdeen free from such pressing burdens.

It is a hopefull and promising beginning, that he and the Council have purchased the lands of Shedockley in the freedom-<sup>95</sup> lands and the lands of Gilchonstoun near the ports of the Town by the money that is already come in, to be forthcoming for some of the Mortifications to pay the rent of some sums so far.

In his time also the Town has recovered the Priviledge of being Admiral-Deputes betwixt the Rivers of Dee & Ythan inclusive. In his time there is a comely & strong stone & lime Wind-Mill newly built at the south entry of the toun, which is & may be of eminent use to the Town.

It's not to be omitted the Town hath set up at every entry of the Town, seats of hewn stone for the accommodation of old men and women going to horse, which is very usefull, and a comely thing.

In his time is a house and accommodations with a boat built



for a Ferryman at the mouth of the River Dee, near our Blockhouse whereby the Inhabitants are greatly eased in not wanting or calling for a Boat from Torrie, as formerly they behoved to do.

In his time, even in this year, the Causey of the most beautifull street in the Town, called the Castle gate, which is long & broad as any Mercat place in the Kingdome, which was so hollow that the dubs and rains stood in pools, not being repaired, when the rest of the streets were of new causeyed about 50 years ago. It is now raised, and though at a considerable expense, is causeying of new.

These things I do not ascribe allenarly to the Provost but to the whole Magistrates, who may equally be instrumental in motioning and promoting good and commendable things with the allowance of the Council.

In Provost Petrie's time, the Town's house, wherein the high and low Council houses, and the Head Court house were commendably repaired by him, enlarged and rendered far more spacious than ever before.

96. In his time, the Scafin-Feasts were converted into money for the use of the Magistrates, that when need requires they meet anent the affairs of the Town, they may call for any refreshment upon that account without any kind of grudge from the Inhabitants, they being free to make use of that money, to any publick use they please.

In Provost Jeffreys time, the shore was greatly lengthened & enlarged as it now stands.

In his time, the ordering of the Visitation of the schools was set up, the ancient Laws or *Leges Scholæ* revised, altered and reprinted, and a great Paperbook for inserting the Visitations given in to be kept by the Master, that they that gained the præmium, whether by making a theam, interpretation of Latine Authors, analising or making of Verse, &c. may be insert with the scholar's own hand the names of the Visitors, and the day & date being first set down.

In George Cullen his time, John being eldest Bailie, the Provost dying, in his time, the Justice of Peace Court was set up by the Bailies with Constables: those out of every Quarter of the Town for punishing and fining Whoremongers and such

as were Drunkards, swearers, and Sabbath breakers. And this was so diligently prosecuted by the Magistrates, and by sending the Constable with the Town Sergeants or Officers through the Town every weekly Market day, that before six moneths ended which closed that year, for the next Election approached; one would not have heard the Meanest Oath in the streets on a Mercat day, though there would have been several thousands of Countrey & Towns people on the Streets.

Chap. VIII. Concerning the State of Aberdeen.

Epigrams on the Town of Aberdeen, by Dr. ARTHUR JOHNSTON Physician in ordinary to K. Charles the first Englished by Mr. JOHN BARCLAY Minister of Cruden. Elogies of other Burrows of Scotland *97*. translated out of Dr. ARTHUR JOHNSTON's Latine Epigrams into English, by the foresaid Mr. JOHN BARCLAY, p. 108 to 117. Relation of the strange cure of mad people at the wel of Struthhill, extracted out of a Letter written by Mr. FORSYTH Minister at Sterling to Mr. Drummond Minister at Muthill.

I received a Letter from you to be communicat to the Minister at Airth anent one Agnes Symson, who was brought to your Well at Struthill. I obeyed your desire In the face of the Presbytery. The Minister hath called the men, who conveyed that woman, before his Session, and upon Weddens-day last, they appeared befoure our Presbytery. All of them, being four, two of them named James Mitchels, and two John Sympsens, friends of the Woman did freely confess, that they had taken that woman to the Well, that they had stayed two nights at an house hard by the Well, that the first night they did bind her twice to a stone at the Well, but she came into the house to them being loosed without their help. The second night they bound her over again to that same stone, & she returned loosed. And they declare also, that she was very mad, before they took her to the Well & since that time, she is working & sober in her wits. The Presbytery hath required me to give you an account of their diligence & to

desire, what further ye require to be done. And they do entreat you to let them know, what course the church hath used to take in the like case, and what censure was inflicted upon such Delinquents. Stirling March 16, 1668.

### CITATIONS concerning the SCOTS and SCOTLAND out of ROMAN AUTHORS.

My Lord Newbaith sent me in a letter these Extracts.

Pompon. Lætus. Constantino obvenere Galliæ, Hispaniæ, et Alpes Cotiæ, Britannia, Orcades, Hybernia, Thule.

Sextus Aurelius Victor. Septimius Severus in Britannia vallum per triginta duo passuum millia, a mari ad mare deduxit.

98. Pompon. Lætus. Imperante Fl. Val. Valentiniano Aug. Picti et Scoti Germaniæ gentes Britanniam invadunt. illi Calidonios et Vecturiones occupant, ii depopulantur Insulam.

Idem. Sub Theodosio rursus Scotorum et Pictorum copiae e Britannia ab legionibus nostris pelluntur, et in Hispania res pro voto successerunt.

Idem. Qui in Brittania erant, scilicet Romani Romanorumque exercitus sub Valentiniano Theodosii filio, cum Scotorum et Pictorum rapinas ferre non possent, Anglorum Regem Vortigomarum ad opem ferendam poposcerunt, secus evenit. Angli insulam suæ ditionis fecere. Sunt etiam ii Saxonum Germanorum populi feroces atque pugnaces qui ad huc cum Scotis interjectis limitibus imperant.

Joh: Baptist Egnatius. Septimus Severus Britannos tumultuantes compescuit Vallo per 32000 passuum a mari ad mare deducto.

Idem. Hoc Principe Scil. Valentiniano tertio Theodosii filio, Francis Gallias, Anglis et Scotis Britanniam occupantibus, Vandalis Africam et ipsam Urbem populantibus Hunnis Europam vexantibus et Italiam, collapsum funditus est.

AN ACCOUNT anent GALLOWAY from Mr  
EUART Provost of Kircudbright.

Galloway is devided into two Jurisdctions, the Shire and the Stewartry. The Stewartry containeth most of it that lyeth to the East, which is delineate in these Mapps of the Stewartry of Kircudbright and of that which is contained betwixt the water of Dee and Cree. The Sherifdome that which lyeth to the West, named the Sherifdome of Wigton to be seen in the Mapp so designed.

CURIOSITIES of NATURE sent to me by  
LADY MARY GORDON.

Ane saltsalt of Marble whyte which was made of a stone found in Strathbogy in a Quarry belonging to the Laird of Craige Gordon.

Some Christalls, whereof one Jeit Black, others very pellucid whyte and Greyish found at Cragougovan in StrathSpey 99. belonging to the Laird of Grant.

The shell of the Nautilus said to have been gotten in Cathness.

RELATION anent CORSTORPHIN by the  
LORD NEWBAITHE.

Corstorphin Church is a Collegiate Churche and the Great Bernard Stuart that was Viceroy of Naples, and Governour of Milan lyeth there he retired there before his death. Of him Comines saith *Le Roy fut batti encoreque Monsieur de Aubigny y fut.*

CAPTAIN COLLINS his OBSERVATION of the  
HIGHWATER at LEITH.

In Leith it is High Water at the New & Full Moon at  $2\frac{1}{4}$  houres, the Spring tyde riseth 16 foot, and Neap 8 foot. Sometimes more or less as the winds blow.



## NATURAL CURIOSITIES in the NORTH.

Doctor Balfour hath a peece of serpentine stone found in the Laird of Lesly his bounds in the Shyre of Aberdene.

In the same Shyre are found Kilovyne near to the Marquis of Huntly his house & the lignum fossile and a sort of Falk and a green Earth Falkish.

The Loch of Charreon. Mackenzie of Apilcrosse upon the one syde of it and Gairloch upon the other. the Loch of Carron, it is in some places a myle broad.

Teesintons breadth benorth it broader and longer.

No access to Hirta but at one place, wher the boat is heased up, loading and all by the Inhabitants there be some 60 families there.

North Wist is divided from South Wist by a space, which when the sea is fully out, is past upon horse and on foot.

The Gare is said to be a fowle of the bigness of a Corby with a great Whyte Spout upon the breast of it.

100. There is in the Merse near Lamyngton his house, ane Vault which goeth far, as they say there, beneath ground to Berwick.

Wist the northsyde belongs to Makdonald and the south to Muydarte.

In Skia Mackdonald and Maclane<sup>1</sup> and Mackinan have the greatest interest.

Mr William Dunlap give ane account of ane Well near New yeard upon the Westsyde of Paisely upon the high way, there is ane Well which ebbeth and floweth with the sea, although upon a higher ground then the Water a Carte, which is the next adjacent place that floweth. it is within ane quarter of mile of Pacely.

Till the year 1600 Our Computation of the Year began at the 25<sup>th</sup> of March.

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<sup>1</sup> 'MacLeod' [interlined].

COPY of a CHARTER granted to SIR W<sup>m</sup> INGLISH of the Barony of MANER in Tweddale by KING ROBERT the 3<sup>d</sup> the 6<sup>th</sup> year of his Reign dated at Strivelin the 2<sup>d</sup> of October fra the transumpt appointed by the Lords of Session the Tenor is.

Robertus Dei gratia Rex Scotorum. Omnibus probis hominibus totius terræ suæ Clericis et Laicis. Sciatis nos dedisse concessisse et hac præsentī charta nostra confirmasse Dilecto consanguineo nostro Wilielmo Inglis militi in remunerationem facti sui notabilis viz. interfectionis Thomæ de Struthyr Anglici militis, quem super Marchiis in duello in actione infamiæ interfecit. Totam et integram Baroniam de Menar cum pertinentiis infra Vicecomitatum de Peblis &c. Testibus Venerabilibus in Christo patribus Waltero et Matthæo Sancti Andreæ et Glascuensis Ecclesiarum Episcopis Roberto Comite de Fyfe et Menteith fratre nostro carissimo. Archibaldo Comite de Duglass. Domino Gallovidiæ, Magistro Duncano Petit Archidiacono Glascuensi Cancellario nostro Jacobo de Duglass Domino de Dalkeith et Thoma de Erskin consanguineis nostris dilectis militibus apud Strevilyn 2<sup>do</sup> Octobris, anno regni nostri 6<sup>to</sup>.

### KING MALCOME his MONUMENT in ANGUS.

The Lord Cars showed me that there is in Angus ane High <sup>101</sup>. Stone set up on end, in the parish of Glams, which they take to be a monument for K. Malcome who was murdered near to that place.

There is another stone thought to be the monument of Sanct Alured.

### NOTES of GALLOWAY.

Galloway will be in lenth fra Port Patrick to Drumfris some threescore of mile.

Principall Towns there Wigton and Kircudbright; Port Patrick & New and Old Galloway are but small Towns.

The Nobility there are the Earle of Galloway of the name of Stuart the Vicount of Kenmure, Gordon, and the Lord Kircudbright, MacClellane.

The Gentry be numerous.

The heritable Sherif, of the name of Agnew.

Considerablest Gentry.—Dalrymple of Stair. Dumbar of Baldoon Muckroom. Maxwell of— Mc'Ghie of Bamagie.

Forest of Ettrick near 14 myles in length and as much in breadth, in some places 15. there be there the Duke of Bucklugh in the parish of Yara Sir William Scot hath Kirwop & Achwood Woods and much rent. Thirlstane hath lands there. there is a Sherifdome and Lordship. their kirks, Selkirk. Yara Kirk, Etrick Kirk. Waters, Yara, Twed & Ettrick. most for pasture.

In a Charter granted by Duncan Mackduff Earle of Fyfe to Lindsay of Mount, Matheu Sibbald is witness, it was in the tyme of David Brus. Mr Hary Mackum promiseth to send over the principall charter. there is mention of that Mathew in many other writts. The Sibbalds of Balgony Heretably Sherif for a long tract of years.

## The DESCRIPTION of the PROVINCE of SOUTHERLAND. With the Commo- dities thereof.

The Countrey or Province of Southerland doth abound in corns, grass, woods, fruits, bestiall, all kinds of wild fowl. Deer and Roe; all sorts of fishes, especially salmon, and all other Commodities, which are usual in this kingdom of Scotland, or necessary for man. Our Writers have hitherto erred in describing the situation of Southerland. It hath Catteynes toward the East & Northeast; It hath the great Ocean toward the North, Northwest, & West Northwest, seing the countreys of Strathnaver Edderachiles and Durines are now

by the Kings Patent under his great seal annexed and adjoined to that Province as a portion thereof. It hath the Countrey of Assint toward the West; It hath Ross toward the South & South west; and hath the German sea toward the South Southeast and east.

Southerland is separated and divided from Cattey-ness by the brook or Stripe called Aldituver and by the Hill called Ord or Mond With a range of other Hills which do stretch from the South sea to the north Ocean. These Hills beginning at the Ord, do extend themselves from thence to Drumhallesdell, where Feahallesdell divideth Sutherland & Strathnaver from Cattey-ness. & then these Hills do stretch from Feahallesdell unto the North sea. Southerland is separate from Assint by Gormloch, Finloch and Loch Markell toward Toinne Toyne by the Glaswin lying Northeast from the Binmore in Assint, by the Eynagh of Binmore in Assint, inclining to Glen Muck and by StrathNordell falling into Kean Loch-Eilsh the mother of the River of Oikell. Southerland is divided by the Province of Ross, by the River Port ne Couter or Tayn by the Water of Oikell and by the height of Glenmuck so that Casley Kean Loch, and all the lands lying upon that river of Casley even unto Aldi-ne-Geale-Gigh. & the Layd-More in Assint, and whatsoever else that payeth tithes to the Parish of Creigh, appertaineth all to the Province of Southerland. Southerland is separate from Strathnaver and Edderachilis by a range of hills running along from the East to the West to wit by the hills of Halledell, by the Millanninleay, by the <sup>103.</sup> Kean Loch Strathie, by the Reawagen, by the Loine-keill, by the Loyn Tarsin, by the Dow-Loyn, by Leayd Shrom ne Gerramgh, equally divided by Correy, Neasairn, by Bincheareoll, by Binchie, by Corri-Chrutter, by Aldi-Nalbanagh, by Knokan-Challeggh, by Aldmillan-Choile, by Droit-Bin-Loyd, and by the height of Bin-Loyd, as you descend into the West sea. Sutherland is separated from Duriness by the Diri More, & by the Edderachilis. Sutherland is divided from Edderachilis by Knokan-Challeggh and the Diri Meanigh even to the height of Bin Loyd, as said is.

The Province of Southerland is called in old Scottish or Irish language Cattey and the Inhabitants Cattigh from the



Usipian and Cattean Morays, who did inhabite that Countrey in the Reign of Corbred Gald King of Scotland, and thereafter it was called Sutherland. Ptolomæus Alexandrinus calleth the people of Cattey Cantæ. This countrey of Cattey did sometimes contain all the Region lying between the Portne-Couter, and Dungsbie, being divided almost in the midst by a mountain called Ord, and a range of other hills running from the south sea to the North Ocean: for Assint was in former times a part of Sutherland and of the Barony of Skelbo, as appears by an Infeftment given of the same to the Lairds of Kinnairdy, who had sometimes the lands of Skelbo. And the countrey which is now called Cattey-ness was first so named as the Ness or Promontory of Cattey lying be east the mountain Ord. Rogerius de Hoveden an ancient Writer calleth it Catteyness. So doth Adam and Andrew Bishops of Catteyness call it. Hector Boetius in his History deriveth Catteynes, though not rightly, from the word Catus (the proper name of a man,) and the word Ness. Doubtless the ambiguity of the words Cattey and Catteyness together with the ignorance of the Irish language hath made Boetius and divers others to err in the denomination of these Countries.

104. The Bishoprick of Catteynes without doubt had first the denomination from Cattey, because this Diocie doth not only contain the countrey of Catteynes but also Southerland, Strathnaver, and Assint, all which in former times was within Cattey: So that the Bishoprick took the denomination rather from Cattey, which was the whole, than from Catteynes, which was but a part and Promontory thereof. And further the Cathedral Church of the Diocie, together with the Bishops Seat and the residence of the Chanons is and hath ever been since the first institution, not in Catteynes but in the town of Dornoch in Southerland. So from the progres of time, the countrey of Cattey losing the ancient name, and taking the name of Southerland, the name of the Bishoprick notwithstanding still remained, and instead of Cattey it is called Catteynes as drawing nearer to the old name and etymology than Southerland did.

Southerland is at this day divided into ten Parishes. Dornoch Creigh Lairg, Durines, Rogart, Gulmaly, Clyne,

Loth, Kildonan & Far, which last is in Strathnaver. There are diverse Chappels in Southerland. In easter Garty, there is a Chappel which was built by Magdalene Bailie Countes of Southerland. There is a Chappel in Maridell dedicate to St. Ninian, where in old times there was a Sanctuary. In Wester Helmsdell, there is a Chappel called St. Johns Chapel. There is a chappel also at Kinnald. At Golspie there is a Chappel dedicate to St. Andrew. There is likewise a Chappel at Kilcolmkill in Strathbroray dedicate to St. Colomb. Besides these there are divers others in several places of the Countrey.

There are three principal Forrests in Southerland besides Scottarie, which lyeth in Strathbroray, Tivarie which is in Strathvely, Glean Shni which lyeth upon the river of Shni, Leagland which lyeth in Strathbroray, Shletadell which is in the Parish of Loth, and diverse other such particular Chases and hunting places of wood and Deer, to wit the Forrest of Diri-Chat which is of the Parish of Kildonan wherein are contained the two hills of Binormin. the forrest of Diri Meanigh which is within the Parish of Lairg wherein is contained Binhie and the great hill Tayn Bamdb. All these forrests and Chases are <sup>105.</sup> very profitable for feeding of bestial and delectable for hunting. They are full of red Deer and Roes, Wolves, Foxes, wild Cats, Brocks, Squirrels, Whitrets, Weasels, Otters, Martricks, Hares and Foulmarts. In these Forrests and in all this Province there is great store of Partridges, Plovers, Capercalzeys, Blackwaks, Moorfowls, Heath hens, Swans, Bittours, Turtle doves, Herons, Doves, Stares or Stirlings, Lair igh or Knag, (which is a fowl like unto a Parroquet or Parret, which makes place for her nest with her beek in the Oak tree,) Duke, Drake, Widgeon, Teal, Wild goose, Ringoose, Routs, Whaps, Shot Whaps, Woodcocks, Larks, Sparrows, Snypes, Blackbirds or Ossils, Mavises, Thrushes and all other kinds of wild foul and birds which are to be had in any part of this kingdom. There is not one Strype in all these forrests that wants trout & other sorts of fishes. The half of the Diri More, which lyeth toward the North and Northwest, doth appertain of late to Macky by the E. of Southerland his Gift and Disposition. In the Diri More there is a Hill called Arkill, all the Deer that

are bred therein or haunt within the bounds of that hill have forked tails three inches long whereby they are easily known and discerned from all other Deer. In Duriness West & north-west from the Dirí More, there is an excellent & delectable place for hunting called the Parne, where they hunt the red Deer in abundance and sometimes they drive them into the Ocean Sea at the Pharohead, where they take them in Boats as they list. There is another part in Southerland in the Parish of Loth called Shletadell, where there are red Deer, a pleasant place for hunting with Greyhounds. Here also sometimes they drive the Deer into the South sea, & so do kill them.

Besides the Rivers of Port-ne-Couter & Oikell which do divide Ross from Southerland, and besides the Rivers of Strathnaver, Durines & Edderachilis, there are in Southerland five principall Rivers, to wit, Unes, Broray, Holmisdell or Ully and Casley all abounding in salmon and other fishes.

106. The first three of these Rivers are good Harbours for the ships that do traffique in that countrey to transport from thence their Corns, salt, Coal, Salmon, Beef, Hides, Wool, Linen, Tallow, Butter, Cheese, Plaids and other Commodities. In the river of Shin there is a great Lin and Overfall of water where there is good fishing of salmon, which is the biggest & largest salmon in the Kingdom. This River of Shin doth never freeze although the Loch or Lake from which it proceeds doth freeze, upon the north side of the River Port-ne Couter. Between the Barony of Skibo and Pulrossie there is a Bay or Inlet of Water, where there is a good Harbour called Polchorrie. There is upon these Rivers and upon the coast of Southerland a great quantity of Pealocks, Selchs or Seals, and sometimes Whales of great bigness. With all sorts of shell-fish and diverse kinds of seafool. The Valleys, which do ly upon the banks of these Rivers and Inlets of Waters, as they do ascend from the sea to the mountains, are called Strathes, and are well manured & inhabited, replenished with woods, grass, corns, cattell and Deer, both pleasant and profitable, such as Strath Ully, which is twenty miles in length, and marches with Dirí Chat. Stratheleit, which is fourteen miles in length from the mouth of the River Unes unto the hills. Strath Terry, Strath ne Saily, Strath Kinne-

dell, Strath Telleny, Strath Dalenarwe, Strath Tolly, Strath Dail ne Meyn, Strath ne Finay, &c. In the height of Strath Uly are the two Hills called Bingrimes, and the Hill called Binwaddie.

There is a part of Southerland within the parish of Creigh called Chilis, or Ferrin-Coskarie, which is eighteen miles in length, lying upon the Northside of the Rivers of Port ne Couter, and Oikell, where there are Hills of Marble. There is another part of Southerland called Breachat, that is the height of Cattey or Southerland, full of corns, fresh water fishes, grass, cattell, woods, deer and wild fowl, very pleasant and exceeding profitable for feeding of bestial. it is contained within the parish of Lairg. Breachat is twenty miles in length and is divided into two parts by the River Shin, which proceeds from Loch Shin, and running from the north to the south entereth into the River of Portne Couter. That part of Breachat, which lyes East and northeast from Loch <sup>107.</sup> Shin, joyns with the Dir-More at Phuarran pooledai. The western part of Breachat is called the Barony of Gruids. wherein is contained the Forrest of Dir Meanigh with Corry-Kean Loch, Steill-Chorri, Garwelayd, and Craigskanlay, The Deer of this forrest and also of all the rest of the forrests and Chases in Southerland are fatter and bigger than any other Deer in Scotland.

There is a place in Southerland beside Spanizidell, where the Inhabitants do take a Fish called sand-eels after this manner. At high streams and springs in summer, when the sea is at low Ebb, there doth appear in the Firth of Portne Couter, some banks or Beds of sand. At these times the common sort of the Inhabitants do convene on horseback to the number of six or seven hundred people, and so do swim towards these sands: and when they do arrive upon these Beds of sand, incontinent they run their horses at full speed, striving who can first arrive at the fishing place, where they do endeavour with all diligence to take these sand-eels not unlike unto spratts, whereof they take such abundance during some few days, that it sufficeth them for provision of that kind of fish during the Lent and the most part of the year following. If any of them do happen to fall in their course,



as they do run their horses the rest do take no notice thereof to rescue but suffer them to ly there among the horse-feet, and run on their intended course. These sand-eels are taken also at Dornoch and at the Ferry of Unes, and in diverse parts of the Countrey, but not after the same fashion.

There are in Southerland diverse Loch or Lakes, above threescore in number, full of good fishes, thorow the Forrests and Mountains, one whereof to wit Loch Shin, is fourteen miles in length. In sundry of these Lakes there are Islands with Habitations as in Loch Shin, Loch Broray, Loch Migdell, Loch Buy, Loch Dolay and others. There are five Lakes lying together in the height of the Parish of Lairg called the Finlochs. In Diri Chat and in the height of Strath Ullly, there are twenty four Lochs dispersed through the mountains, from whence the River of Ullly descends. In Loch Broray there is an Island, where the E. of Southerland hath a delectable Habitation and pleasant for hunting red Deer and

108. Roes in the woods on both the sides of the Lake. This Island is distant three or four miles from the Burgh of Broray. There are four Islands in Lochshin; to wit Ellan Minrie, Ellan Donald, Ellan Feyad and Clach-Ellan; all pleasant dwellings in summer. To these Islands there do resort good store of wild geese, swans and red deer.

In the Lakes and Rivers of Southerland and chiefly in Shin, there are excellent good Pearles, some whereof have been sent unto the King's Majesty into England, and were accounted of great value. In Southerland there are silver mines, which have been hitherto neglected. There was an Essay of these Mines carried to London the year of God 1620 by the deceased Sir Tho. Meinzie's Provost of Aberdeen, and being tryed in England, they were found to be very rich. But he concealing in what part of Southerland the mine was found, and dying upon the way at that time in his return from London towards Scotland, the State is hitherto deprived of the benefit of these mines, untill it shall please God in his appointed time to discover the same. There are Hills of Marble in diverse parts of this Province. There is good sea coal some half mile bewest the mouth of the River of Broray wherewith I have seen fine salt made, which served Souther-

land with the adjacent Provinces, and was sometimes also transported into England and other Kingdoms. There is a fine and excellent Quarry of free stone, a little by West that Coalheuch beside Ald-Sputy, which is carried from thence unto other parts of the Kingdom. Half mile from Dunrobin there is a fine Quarry of Limestone at Golspie More. In diverse parts of this Countrey, there is abundance of Iron-ure, wherewith the Inhabitants make good Iron. There is a Quarry of Slate hard by the town of Dornoch. So there is also in the Parish of Kilmely and in Strath Uly.

The principal town in Southerland is Dornoch, where there is a fair Castle appertaining to the E. of Southerland. This Town was lately erected in a Burgh Royal by the credit and means of Sir Robert Gordon Tutor of Southerland. It is situate between the rivers of Portne Couter and Unes: and is the Chief Burgh and Seat of the Sheriffs of Southerland, where <sup>109.</sup> all their Hornings and Inhibitions are registred, and all Denunciations made, and Proclamations read. About this Town, along the sea coast, there are the fairest and largest Links or green fields of any part of Scotland, fit for Archery, goffing, riding and all other exercise. They do surpass the fields of Montrose or St. Andrews. In Dornoch there was a Church called St. Bar his Church, which was built by St. Bar Bishop of Catteyness and was in our days demolished. In Dornoch is the Cathedral Church and the Bishops Seat of the Diocie of Catteynes, together with the residence of the Chanons. This Church was built by St. Gilbert in honour of our Lady, and is commonly called St. Gilbert his Church. All the Glass that served this church when it was built, was made by St. Gilbert his appointment beside Sidderay, two miles by west Dornoch. This Church was burnt & thrown down by John Sinclair Master of Catteynes, and Y-Macky of Far the year of God 1570. and it hath been of late reedified by Sir Robert Gordon Tutor of Southerland, which work was enterprised and begun by John Earle of Southerland last deceased a little before his death. In this church, the Earles of Southerland have had for the most part their Burial places unto this day, in the South Isle called Our Ladies Isle.

In the toun of Dornoch there are four Fairs kept yearly:

St Gilbert his Fair, St Bar his Fair, St Margarits Fair, and St Bernards Fair, unto the which there resorteth a great confluence of people to traffique from all the parts of the Kingdom. St Gilbert his Fair is kept yearly the first day of April. St Margarits Fair is kept yearly the 20<sup>th</sup> day of July; St Bernard his Fair is kept yearly the 20<sup>th</sup> day of August; and St Bar his Fair was kept in former times the 25<sup>th</sup> day of September, but Alexander E. of Southerland procured it to be transferred and removed from the 25 day of September to the 10<sup>th</sup> day of October. Every one of these Fairs continues for the space of three days. There is also a great Fair kept yearly  
 110. at Golspi Kirktown beside Dunrobin the last day of November called St Andrew his Fair. Ane other Fair is kept in Creigh, called St Teavnecks Fair; one is kept at Rogart called St Callen his Fair; one at Lairg called St Minrie his Fair, one at Clyne called St Aloyne his Fair; one at Kilmary called St Carden his Fair; one at Loth called also St Carden his Fair; one at Kildonnand called St Donnand his Fair; and four appointed to be at Broray, whereof one is called our Ladies Fair.

A little by east the town of Dornoch, there is a Monument, in form and structure like a Cross called Crash Worwaire that is, the Thane or Earle his Cross. There is another beside Enbo, about a mile from Dornoch, called Rie Cross, that is the Kings Cross, in the which place one of the Kings or Commanders of Denmark was slain and buried. Nine miles by east Dornoch lyeth the Burgh of Broray at the entry of the river of Broray, which was erected into a Burgh by the procurement of John E. of Southerland last deceased. Upon that River there is a Bridge consisting of one fair arch which was of late reedified & repaired by Sir Robert Gordon Tutor of Southerland. The Earle of Southerland's Arms were carved in stone and placed upon the northside thereof.

There is not a Rat in Southerland; and if they do come thither in ships from other parts which often happeneth, they die presently, how soon they do swell of the air of that Countrey. And which is strange, there is a great store and abundance of them in Catteyness the very next adjacent Province divided only by a little strype or brook from Southerland. There are many wild Catts in Southerland, which the

Inhabitants do hunt among the Rocks and Mountains as they do the foxes, the Wolfs and the Brocks. Diverse kinds of Hawks do breed in Southerland; such as Falcons, Merlins, Gerfalcons, Sparhawks &c. In all the Province of Southerland there is not a Town, Village or Mannour without the commodity either of the Sea or of a River or a Lake or a Brook of <sup>111.</sup> fresh water running hard by it, whereby all the Inhabitants generally have fish and fresh water trouts at all times and seasons. There is a Hill in Southerland called Ord very high and of dificle passage, by the which men do travel into Catteynes. The Range of Hills running from the South sea to the North doth divide Southerland from Catteynes. The corns and grain of Southerland are excellent; and chiefly the Barly is so good that it giveth greater prices in other parts of the kingdom than the barley of Orkney, Catteynes, Murray or any of the rest of the Provinces of the north, excepting Ross, the barley whereof is almost of the like goodnes with that of Southerland.

The Castles and Pyles of Southerland are Dornoch, Dunrobin the Earle of Southerlands special residence, a house well seated upon a Mote hard by the sea with fair Orchards, where there be pleasant Gardens planted with all kinds of fruits, herbs and flowers used in this kingdom and abundance of good saffron, Tobacco, and Rosemary. The fruit here is excellent and chiefly the Pears and Cherries. There is in Dunrobin, one of the Deepest Draw wells; all of Aisler work from the ground to the top, called St John's Well, which is within the Castle in the midst of the Court. One mile from the Castle, there is a fair Coneygar three miles in lenth along the sea-coast, very well stored and full of Coneys. The Castles & Pyles of Skelbo, Pronsie, Skibo, where there is a fair Orchard in the which there be excellent Cherries, Pulrossie, Einwershin, Golspi Tower, Golspi Kirktown, Helmsdell, which was reedified the year of God 1616 by Sir Alex<sup>r</sup> Gordon of Navidell Brother to John E. of Southerland last deceased, Torrish built also by the said Sir Alex<sup>r</sup> Gordon the year of God 1621, Cracok, Cuttle, Clyn, Enbo, Castle-Negoir, Durmes, Doun-Creigh, Abirscors, Ospidale, Clentredwale, Born & Tounge. These two <sup>112.</sup> last are in Strath Naver. Doun-Creigh was built with a



strange kind of Morter by one Paul Macktyre. This I do take to be a kind of Ure. However this is most sure, that there hath not been seen an harder kind of Morter.

Southerland is about 55 miles in length from the West to the East; to wit from Aldene-Gealghigh, Kean Loch-Eilsh, & the West Sea at Glencule unto the marches of Catteynes, be east the Ord. And in breadth it is about 33 miles from the south sea unto the North Ocean, including herein Strathnaver which in some parts is 11 miles in breadth. Most part of the Rivers in Southerland do descend from the North Mountains to the south sea; and the rivers of Strath Naver do descend from the south to the north ocean, which is occasioned by the range of Hills running from the east to the west, that divide Southerland from Strathnaver.

The Parish of Kildonnand, which doth march with Catteynes extends itself in length twenty three miles from the south toward the North, and in breadth seven miles, some times less, from the East to the West. Next unto Kildonnand, lyeth the Parish of Loth extending itself in length 8 miles from the east to the West, and in breadth four miles from the south sea to the north. With Loth the parish of Clyn doth march, extending itself in length eighteen miles from the south sea unto the north Mountains and in breadth eight miles sometimes less, from the east to the west. Next Clyn lyeth the Parish of Kil-maly, extending itself eight miles in length from the east to the west and in breadth seven miles, sometimes less, from the south sea toward the north. The Parish Kirk is now at Golspi and was translated from Kilmary thither. The next Parish to Kilmary is Rogart, extending itself in length sixteen miles  
 113. from the south west toward the North and North East, and in breadth six miles sometimes less, from the southeast to the northwest. With Rogart marcheth the Parish of Lairg, extending itself in length 24 miles from the south toward the north, and in breadth 19 miles, sometimes less, from the East toward the West, not comprehending herein Edderachilis. The Parish of Creigh extends itself in length 26 miles from the East to the West, along the northside of Port-ne Couter, and Oikell and in breadth six miles, sometimes less, from the south to the north. The parish of Dornoch doth extend

itself in a Point or Ness between the Rivers of Port ne Couter, and Unes. It is ten miles in length from the south toward the North, and in breadth five miles from the east toward the west and Northwest. All these Parish Churches are now of late repaired in that Countrey.

Edderachilis is a tract of land, which lyes upon the Northwest coast of Scotland full of wilderness mountains and Rocks. It is marched at the East and South with Knokean Challeggh and some other parts of the E. of Southerlands property in the Diri-More. It hath the sea at the West and Northwest. It hath Assint and a part of Diri Meanigh at the South, and it hath Durines at the North. It extends in length sixteen miles from the east to the west and in breadth nine miles, sometimes less, from the south to the North. Although Edderachilis doth appertain at this day to Macky, yet it was never a part of Strathnaver, but it was a portion of the Barony of Skelbo in Southerland and hath been a part of the Parish of Lairg. Though, since it went from the Lairds of Skelbo, it hath payed no Tythes to the Thesaurer of Catteynes unto whom the tythes of the whole Parish of Lairg do properly appertain. Neither doth it at this day appertain to any other Parish, but that of late the Bishop hath given the Tythes to the Possessor, neither is there any other Parish Church within itself to this day. Macky holds Edderachilis of the E. of Southerland as his Lord and Superior, in the same manner as he doth hold the lands of Strathnaver. In Edderachilis there is a River called Laxford, in the which there is taken good store of salmon fish. There is an Island called Ellan-handey, which lyes in the West sea, upon the coast of Edderachilis, and appertains to it, or rather belongs to Durines. 114.

Durines is a portion of land very pleasant and profitable lying upon the Northwest point of Scotland, which although it be in Macky his possession, given him by the E. of Southerland as his Fee for his good service to that House, yet it is not a portion of Strathnaver, neither hath Macky as yet the heritable Right thereof, but only as a Possession for his service during the Earle of Southerlands pleasure. Durines is the Bishop of Catteynes his Property and was given of late in few

by the Bishops of that Diocie to the E. E. of Southerland. Among the Bishop of Catteynes his Evidents and Writs, there is an Agreement and Arbitral Decreet past long ago between the E. of Southerland and the Bishop of Catteynes, whereby the Marches of Durines and of the E. of Southerlands Property are by way of perambulation settled and agreed upon: and thereby it appeareth clearly, that in those days Southerland and Durines did march together. This was many years before the disposition of Durines made by the Bishops to the E. of Southerland. Durines is eighteen miles in length from the South toward the North, and twelve miles in breadth from the Mountains to the West and North West Ocean. It hath Edderachilis at the South & South West; it marches with Strathnaver, at the North and Northeast; it hath the Diri More at the East and Southeast; and hath the Ocean sea at the West and N. West. In it there is a great River called the River of Durines, where there is good  
115. store of salmon fish taken. It is thought that in Durines there are Mines of Gold. The Barley in Durines is very good, and the Increase thereof so great, that it is almost incredible. But this Increase doth not happen every year, nor in every part of that Land. The days are of great length in Durines in summer & there is no dark night at all; the days in Winter be very short & the night exceeding long. I do verily think that there is no land directly North from the point of the Ness of Durines called Ardurines; at least there is none found out as yet. The Parish Church of Durines is at Baill ne Kill, where also the Castle of Durines was. I have spoken already of a place in Durines called the Parwe or Pharohead, which is an exceeding delectable place for hunting of red Deer.

Now let us speak something of Strathnaver seeing the E. of Southerland is Lord and Superior thereof, and seing it is a portion of the Earldom of Southerland. Strathnaver is a Countrey full of Bestial and Cattel, fitter for Pasturage and Store than for corns, by reason there is little manured land there. It is and hath been these many years, possessed by Macky Chief of the Clan Wick-worgin. The principal Commodities of Strathnaver are Cattel and fishing, not only

salmon, whereof they have great store, but also they have such abundance of all other kinds of fishes in the Ocean, that they apprehend great numbers of all sorts at their very doors, yea in the winter season among the Rocks without much trouble. They take and apprehend every day so much fish only as will suffice them for the time, and do care for no greater provision or store. If the Inhabitants were industrious, they might gain much by these fishes. But the people of that Countrey are so far naturally given to idleness that they cannot apply themselves to labour which they esteem a disparagement and derogation to their Gentility. There is no doubt, <sup>116.</sup> but that Countrey might be much bettered by laborious and painfull Inhabitants. There are in Strathnaver divers Promontories stretching themselves forth into the North Ocean; to wit Fyrebole, Hope Strathie, &c. There are diverse Rivers in Strathnaver, wherein they do take good store of salmon, to wit Hope, Torresdell, Mawer or Far, Strathie & Holledell. In Strathnaver there are two Castles Borwe and Tounge. Macky his special Residence is at Tounge one mile from the place where the Castle doth stand. Macky his Burial place is at the Chappel of Kirkboll, which is one mile distant from Tounge, and is lately repaired. The Countrey of Strathnaver is full of red Deer and Roes, pleasant for hunting in the summer season. It is full of great mountains and Wilderness, yet very good for Pasture. It is stored with all kinds of wild fowl. Strathnaver is in length about thirty miles from the east to the west, and eleven miles in breadth, sometimes less, from the south mountains to the north sea, wherein I do not comprehend Edderachilis or Durines. Strathnaver hath Southerland at the South, Catteynes at the East, Durines at the West, and the Ocean sea at the North and North West. The greatest Mountains in Strathnaver are BinChlribig, Binhope, Binstomnie et Binleyoll. There are diverse Lakes or Lochs in Strathnaver, whereof the chiefest is Loch Mawer, full of good fishes. In Loch Leoyle there is ane Island which is a pleasant Habitation in the summer season. Macky hath also a summer dwelling in an Island within Loch Stalk in the Diri More. In diverse of these Lochs or Lakes there is Pearle found. There are some Islands upon the coast of that



Countrey in the North Ocean: the chiefest are Ellan-Come, Ellan-Zeyle, Ellan-Rome and Ellan Neiwe. There is one Parish in Strathnaver called Far. Thus much of Strathnaver.

117. The principal surnames and families which are now in Southerland, excluding Strathnaver, Durines, and Ederachilis, are these, Gordon, Southerland, Moray, Gray, Clangum, Seilthomas, Seilwohan, and Seilphaill. The bodies and minds of the people of this province are endued with extraordinary abilities of nature. They are great hunters and do delight much in that exercise, which makes them hardened to endure travell and labour. The Earls of Southerland are very ancient, and ranked among the first in Scotland. They have been always men of great courage. The Earle of Southerland is at this day very strong and of great power. He holdeth his Earldome and Lands in Regality and Blench. He is Hereditary Sheriff of that whole Province, and of Strathnaver also, the Depucy whereof, he hath given of late to Macky. The Gentlemen of that Earldome do hold their lands of the Earle, most part Ward and Releef. He hath power to exercise Justice within all the territories of his province both in Criminal and Civil Causes and to keep and appoint Courts to that effect; and also for the managing of his own Revenues. He hath from the Duke of Lennox the Heretable Gift of the Admiralty of the whole Diocie of Catteynes. He is Lord & Superior of Strathnaver, Edderachilis and Durines. All which Lands are annexed to the Earldome of Southerland by His Majesties Charter under His great Seal.

### DESCRIPTION of EAST-LOTHIAN.

The Sheriffdome of Hadington, ordinarily called East Lothian is in length from Edgbuckling-brae to Cockburnspath twenty two miles and in breadth from Lambermoorhill to the sea, commonly called the Water of Forth, in some parts 12 miles, and some parts less.

It is bounded by the Water of Forth on the North & East, by a tract of Hills called Lambermoor (the one side whereof are in the Sherifdome of Hadingtoun, and the other side

within the Sherifdome of Berwick) on the south, & by the Sherifdome of Ed<sup>r</sup> or MidLothian on the West.

The considerable River in this shire is the Water of Tine, <sup>118.</sup> which has its beginning in the Sheriffdome of MidLothian above the Castle of Crichtoun, and falls in the sea at Tynninghame. The Water of Keith, Birnes Water, and Paistoun-burn runs into Tine at Saltoun, and Boltoun Water runs into it at Clerkingtoun. In this River are salmon fish but they do rarely come up above Lintoun Linn, which is a steep Downfall of water from a Rock 7 miles from the Water-mouth.

There are of stone bridges upon this River of Tine six. one at Lintoun Brigs, one at the Abbey of Hadingtoun, one at the burgh of Haddington, one at Pencaitland, one at Ormestoun and one at Nether Cranstoun.

The Water of Beill has the source above Garvit, and runs into the sea at Balhaven.

Brokisburn and the rest of the Burns in the east part of the shire, are most part dry in summer, and are increased in Winter by snow and Rains from Lambermoorhill, whereunto they are near.

Peffer is rather a Stank than a Water, and runs in length East and West, and has two mouths; one running in the sea at the West beside Lufness, and the other running in the sea at the East near Tininghame, and is passable in very few places in the Winter time.

There are of sea Harbours one at Dunbar, one at Northberwick, one at Cockeny and one at Morisons Haven. Sundry other Creeks there are for Barks in summer time as Tynninghame Aberlady, and Thorntonloch, and Sketraw.

Burghs-Royal, Hadingtoun, the Head-Burgh of the Shire, Dumbar and Northberwick. Mercat-towns Tranent and Salt Prestoun and the town of Prestoun and Cockenie and hes fairs.

Two Presbyteries, Hadingtoun & Dumbar. Hadingtoun Presbytery has the Parish kirk of Prestounpanns, Tranent, Aberlady, Dirletoun, Northberwick, Athelstounfoord, Hadingtoun, Morhame, Bara, Bathanes, Boltoun, Garvet, Saltoun, Pencaitland and Humbie. The Presbytery of Dumbar hes the kirks of Prestounhauch, Whitekirk, Tynninghame, Dumbar, Inner- <sup>119.</sup> weik, Aldhamstocks, Spott, Stentoun, and Whittinghame. It

is to be remembred that the Parish of Ormestoun is in this Shire, but in the Presbytry of Dalkeith. And so in this Shire are 24 Parish Kirks.

The highest Hill is on the south border and is called Lamberlaw, on the East whereof runs a tract of Hills called Lambermoor, to the East sea; and on the West an other tract of Hills through the Sherifdomes of Mid-Lothian, Peebles, Lanerk, and Shire of Air, Drumfreiss to the West Sea. It hath other two hills Traprenlaw and North Berwicklaw.

This Shire abounds with corns of all sorts, as Wheat, Rie, Oats, Pease & Beans & Grass; and has the Woods considerable of Pressmennan, Colstoun, Ormestoun and Humbie and Fountainhall.

It has much Coal and Limestone, the first serving for fewel, making salt and burning Lime stone; the last very useful for manuring the ground, building, &c.

It has many Salt pans, wherein much white salt is made.

From the West part of it towards the sea, all along to the East part it abounds with Coneys.

It has great store of sheep, especially towards the Hills of Lambermoor and be west Lamberlaw.

A Manufactory of broad cloath is erected at New Mylnes beside Hadingtoun. the most considerable in Scotland, where good cloath of all sorts are made.

At Dumbar and on the Coast thereabout yearly after Lambmas an Herring fishing, which are sold to the countrey people, and many made in white and red herrings sent over seas, especially to France for wines. there are houses for the making of the red herring.

Many Fisher touns on the sea-coast, whereby many fishes of all sorts are taken for the use of the Inhabitants and neighbouring Shires especially Edr.

120. The Isles belonging to this Shire are the Bass which is admirable first for the structure of it, being a Rock rising out of the sea, on all parts perpendicular, declining to the south, and ascending to the North, in circuit. scarce a mile. 2. It has grass for feeding of sheep on all the surface 3 It has a Well-spring of fresh water near to the top of it. 4 One of the con-

siderable Barons of the Shire had his Residence many times in it. 5 It has abundance of common Doves, Turtle-doves Skouts, Skarts, and all sorts of sea fowls. But the greatest rarity of all is the Solane goose, which yearly breeds on this Rock and nowhere else for what is known in Europe, except in an Isle in the west sea of Scotland called Ailsa. The old Goose is white, goes from the Bass northward in the end of September or beginning of October yearly, and returns in April or May: and as the Inhabitants of the Isle observe, they sent always some few Geese before as scouts, and then within few days thereafter the great body follow in several squadrons. They bring forth but one Goose, and so lay but one Egg, which is so laid as that it stands on the end, and the Goose sets on her foot upon it, and so hatches it. But when the Goose is off it, as seldom she does willingly, if any touch the Egg, and it remove, it is impossible to make it stand as it was; and therefore the Goose lays another Egg, and hatches it with her foot on it standing on end as the former. The Solane Geese have this quality, that none of them can fly except they see the sea, so that when their eggs are laid, (for nests they have none,) on any ground within the Isle from the sight of the sea, if any can come between them and the sea, they may be taken: and if any of the old Geese be driven by great Winds on land, they are a prey to any that comes where they are. The young Solane Geese before they fly, are only for eating, for at that time they are fat and tender, of a large bigness, weel nigh as big as a common Goose. The flesh of the old ones is black and tough, they have much oyl in them, and their feathers serve for bedding. The Heritor will make yearly for young Solane Geese, of commodity 200 lib. Sterlin.

The Fort of Tamptallon is the only House of any considerable strength within this Shire: it is environed by the sea on three quarters, situate on a Rock ten fathoms above the sea, and toward the land it is defended with earthen Works without, and a strong high stone wall. flanked with three Towers, a Graff at the root of the Wall and a Drawbridge, this belongs to Sir Heugh Dalrymple, it was likewise the seat of the Douglasses.



The old Castle of Dumbar was famous for strength but is now ruinous.

This Shire is naturally guarded by the sea on the North & East and by the hills of Lambermoor on the south, so that from the one end of it to the other, there is no passage for Draughts except on three, viz. at Cockburnspath on the East, at the Myln know in the middle, and Soutray on the West, and all thir three passages very uneasy.

The most considerable Houses are Seatoun and Wintoun both pertaining to the E. of Wintoun.

Many others there are and stand as after following, beginning at the West part, viz. Westpanns, Dolphingtoun, Fauside, Elphingtoun, Ormestoun, Keith, Humbi, Saltoun, Hermistoun, Blanse, Preston-grange, Preston, Saint Germaines, Elvingstoun, Pilmoor, Clerkingtoun, Newtown to Sir Richard Newtown, Bathanes, Newhall, New Yester, Colstoun, Leithingtoun now Blantys, Alderstoun, Redhouse, Gosfoord, Aberlady, Lufness, Saltcoats, Ballincrief, Byres, Garniltoun, Barns, NewMylns, Monkrig, Morhame, Whitlaw, Linplum, Bara, Nunray, Staniepath, Whittinghame, Ruchlaw, Stevenstoun, Beanstoun, Fenton-Tour, Dirletoun, Congiltoun, Heuche, North Berwick, Wauchtoun, Craig, Smetoun, Beill, Tynighame, Newbaith ane house and good police, Gleghorn, Lochend, Newtown-Lees, Broxmouthe, Tharstoun, Laseild, Innerweik, Dunglass.

In Doctor Sibbalds hand.

There was a castell at Dirletoun, the tour of Waughton was a fort. Newbaith was a fort.

122. Balgon, Sir George Sutton in North Berwick parish he has Adam and Seagack. Gilmerton Kinloch. and Matter is his in the parish of Athelstone foord. Byres E. of Hoptons. Lochend Warrener. Dirleton has Fenton tour, he has all the parish of Dirleton in propertie or superioritie.

Balhaven has Biel, Prestminin by Wachtoun Mains, now Vicount Teviots. Colstoun Broun. Dalgourie, Broun, Blance Major Sharp. Ledintoun Blantys. Clerkintoun Cockburn, Aderston Sir Th. Hay Hay of Nunland. Munkrig, Hepburn, Harperdeen Bailie Cockburn.

DESCRIPTION of MIDLOTHIAN or ED<sup>R</sup> SHIRE.

The Sheriffdome of Edinburgh commonly called MidLothian is the first and principal Shire of this Kingdom, and goes in length from Edgbukling brae, a little be East the town of Musselburgh southwest by the space of twenty or twenty one miles to the Mulrane burn upon the West end of Calder-moor betwixt the said Shire and Sheriffdome of Lanerick.

The breadth thereof is very unequal, The northeast part from Edgbucklinbrae, quhilk is upon the march of East Lothian eight miles westward to the mouth of the Water of Amond being in breadth from the River of Forth southward to the Sheriffdome of Tweddale 16 or 17 miles. The other 12 or 13 miles, qlk is the southwest part thereof is drawn together in a Tract in the form of a Gushet, being at the end 14 miles of breadth, at the midle 5 or 6 miles, and at the southwest end thereof not exceeding two miles.

It is bounded with the Sherifdome of Hadingtoun or East Lothian from Edgbucklingbrae, at the River of Forth southward by the space of 13 miles; and with the Bailerie of Lauderdale about 4 miles on the east, and with the Sherifdome of Tweddale from the Bowlands to a little be north Dunsire be the space of 13 miles upon the south; and with the Sherifdome of Lanerick from be north Dunsire to the Mulrane Burn by the space of 6 or 7 miles upon the southwest; and with the said Sheriffdome of Lanerick from the <sup>123.</sup> Mulrane Burn to Fala Hills by the space of two miles upon the West; and with the Sherifdome of Linlithgow from Fala Hills to the mouth of the water of Amond, where it falls in the Water of Forth, by the space of 14 miles upon the Northwest, the water of Amond dividing betwixt the two shires all the said 14 miles, except at the easter and Wester Houldons, Lethem and Pompherstone where by the space of two miles, the said Water runs wholly within the said Shire of Mid-Lothian; and with the river of Forth from the mouth of Amond to Edgbucklingbrae at the march of East Lothian by the space of 8 miles upon the north parts thereof.

The principal Waters are the Water of Amond, the Water

of Leith, the Water of Esk, and the Water of Tine, the Water of Gala, all which take their beginning and rising out of the south part of this shire & fall in the river of Forth upon the North part thereof, except the Water of Tine which falls into Forth at Tynninghame within the Sherifdome of East Lothian; and Gala qlk falls into Tweed a little beneath Galaschiels within the Sherifdome of Atrick-Forrest.

The Water of Amond takes its beginning or source from the Moor heads upon the march of Clidsdale, and from thence running Northeast by the space of 14 miles is joined with Forth at nether Cramond. This Water has store of fishes, but especially from the mouth thereof three or four miles upward there is good store of salmond.

The neighbouring Inhabitants by the space of four or five miles upward from the mouth of this Water are much dampnified by the Inundations thereof, that oftentimes overflows the low ground, and in the harvest time carries the Corns headlong into Forth.

There is of stone bridges upon this Water, one with three Bows at Over Cramond, one with two Bows a little above Hall Listoun one with one Bow at Calder.

The Houses upon the Northwest side of this Water within this Shire beginning at the head and descending northeastward are Wester & Easter Houdons, Lethem & Pompherstoun. The Houses upon the southeastsides beginning at the head and  
 \*124. descending northeastward are Grange Alderstoun, the Palace of Calder, Cliftounhall, and the toun of Cliftoun, Hallyards, Briges, Leny, Over Cramond and Nether Cramond.

The lesser Waters which fall into the said Water of Amond are Breich, Killing, Wyndhorn, Southwood Water, and Gogar Burn, all which take their beginning upon the Southparts of this shire and are joynted to Amond upon the North and Northwest parts thereof.

The Water of Breich hath its rise or beginning at the Mulrane and descending northeast by the space of 5 miles is joynted to Amond at the Grange dividing betwixt the Sherifdom of Linlithgow and this Shire.

The Houses beginning at the head of this Water, and

descending North eastward are Handiswood, Rashiehill, Moorhouse dikes, Ædiweel. Baddis.

The Water of Killing takes its beginning or source at Carnwath moor and falls in the said Water of Amond above the Palace of Calder at Breich.

The Water of Wyndhorn takes its beginning or source a little above Harwood, and descending northward by the space of 3 or 4 miles is joyned to Southwood Water a little beneath the foot of the wood of Calder and a little from thence, both are joyned to the water of Amond.

Houses upon this Water, beginning at the head and descending northward are Harwood, Hermischiels, Brothertoun.

Southwood Water takes its beginning at Garronsike where the 3 Shires of Lothian Clidsdale & Tweeddale meet, and descending northward by the space of 3 miles, is joyned with the water of Wyndhorn at the south Bridge of Calder a litle beneath the Wood thereof.

Houses upon the Southwood Water, beginning at the head and descending northward are Corsewoodburn, Linhouse Selmes & Calder hall. There is upon the saids Waters joined, one stone bridge a little beneath the Wood of Calder.

Gogar Burn takes its beginning a little above Kirk Newtoun and descending northward by the space of 5 or 6 miles is joyned to the Water of Amond a little be east the Easter Brigs.

Houses upon the westside of the said Burn beginning at <sup>125</sup> the head & descending northward are Kirk Newton, Humbie, Haltoun, Aldistoun, Ovir Gogar with the Place thereof. Also upon the east side of the said Burn beginning at the head and descending northward are the town of Dalmahoy standing upon a ragged Rock commonly called Dalmahoy Craigs the Place of Dalmahoy, Waristoun, The town of Hermistoun with the Place thereof, Redhous.

There is betwixt the said Burn and the Southwood Water Mortoun Corstoun, and Ormistoun, and betwixt the said Burn and the Water of Amond, Bonitoun, Ratho, Ratho-Byres, Nortoun, and Inglistoun.

The Water of Leith takes its beginning at the Cairnhill, and descending northward be the space of 9 or 10 miles falls



in the Water of Forth at the famous Town and Harbour of Leith.

There is upon the said Water of Leith 43 corn mills and a manufactory lately erected.

The Houses upon the westside thereof beginning at the head and descending northwards are Revelrig, Curriehill, Town of Currie, Babertoun, Stenop mills, Saughtonhall, Dean, Innerleith, Waristoun, Bonitoun, North Leith. There is upon the eastside of the said Water beginning at the head and descending northward Cairns, Bavelay, Balenay, Wester Limphoy, Easter Limphoy, Currie, Killeith, Woodhall, Colintoun, Redhall, Gorgie Town, Gorgie Mill, Dalry Mills with the House thereof, Coats, Water of Leith, Cano Mills, Pilrig, Bonitoun Mills, Town of Leith.

There is one Burn that falls into the Water of Leith commonly called the Murrey Burn: it takes its beginning above Curriehill and falls in the Water of Leith at the Powder Mill.

Houses upon this Burn beginning at the head and descending downward are Riccartoun and Saughtoun.

Houses betwixt the Water of Leith and Amond are Corstorphin, Saughtoun, Craig Crook, Barntoun, Murreys, Piltoun, Lauristoun, Easter & Wester Drylays, Craig-  
Innerleith.

126. Houses upon the Water of Forth betwixt the mouth of the water of Amond, and the mouth of the Water of Leith are Nether Cramond, Wester and Easter Grantouns, the old Castle of Weardie, the fishertoun called New Haven, where is a manufactory erected for making of Cables and Tows.

The Waters of South and North Esk at the foot of the Wood of Dalkeith are joyned together in one, and about two miles from thence at Pinkie fall into Forth.

The Houses upon the westside thereof are Newtoun, Monk-toun, Monktonhall, Stoniehill, and the toun of Fisheraw.

Houses upon the east side thereof are Smeitoun, Inneresk, Town of Musselburgh and Pinkie with a stonebridge of 3 bows.

North Esk takes its beginning upon the South of Pentland hills a little above the Hallis, and descending northward by

the space of 8 or 10 miles at the foot of Dalkeith Wood is joyned to South Esk.

The Houses upon the eastside of this Water beginning at the head and descending northward are Uttershill, Achindinnine, Gortoun, Hawthornden, Poltoun, Dalkeith Town and Castle. The Houses upon the westside beginning at the head are the Grange, Pennycook, Woodhouslee, Rosline, Dradune, Leswade, Melvill, Lugtoun.

This Water has of Stone Bridges, one at Dalkeith, one at Lesswade, one at Rosline.

There are between the Water of North Esk and the Water of Leith, two smaller Waters or Burns, called the Figgat Burn and Maitland Burn, which take their beginning from Pentland hills, and descending northward fall into Forth, betwixt the mouth of the Water of Leith, and the mouth of the Water of Esk.

The Figgat Burn has its source from Pentland hills and descendeth northward by Libbertoun and Pepper Mills at Priestfield falls into Dudistoun Loch, and from thence into Forth.

The Maitland Burn takes its beginning from a little above Broomkills and runs down by Stanehouse, Little France, Niddrie, and Easter Dudistoun, and falls into the Forth a little be west Fisheraw harbour.

There are many good Houses betwixt the Water of Leith <sup>127.</sup> and the said Water of North Esk. And first there is betwixt the said Water of Leith and the Figgat burn beginning at the foot of Pentland hills, and descending northward to the River of Forth, Swanstoun, Comistoun, Craig Lockhart, Craighouse, Braid, Plewlands, Brunsfeild, the Grange, Sheens, Wrights-houses, Marchistoun, Preistfeild, Dalry, Coats, Drum, Pilrig Restelrig, Dudistoun, the Town of Edr, with the Castle thereof at the one end commonly called the Maiden Castle, and the Kings Palace at the other end which is the chief and principal City of this Kingdome and the only Burgh Royal in this shire: and from thence about a mile north at the mouth of the Water of Leith, where it falls into Forth, is situat the Town of Leith with the famous Harbour for shipping, and is now begun to be fortified by Foussees, and Rampires, and Draw Bridges upon all sides.

There are also betwixt the Maitland burn and Figgat Burn, beginning at the head and descending northward to the River of Forth, Mortounhall, Southouse, Over Libertoun, Nether Libertoun, the Inch, Craigmillar, Niddrie.

There is betwixt the Maitland Water and Northesk, beginning at the head thereof, Penthland toun, Stratoun, Murreys, Gilmertoun, Goodtrees, Drum, Comistoun, Woolmat, Sheriffhall, the Hill, Brunstane, and Whitehill.

There is betwixt the Hills of Penthland and the Water of North Esk, Fulfoord, Glencors, and Newhall.

South Esk takes its beginning or source from Morpet Hills and descending northward by the space of ten miles is joyned with North Esk at the foot of Dalkeith Wood.

Houses upon the eastside thereof beginning at the head are Morpet, Maslie, Yorkstoun, Clerkintoun, Temple, Arnistoun, The Shank, Cockpen, Stoneflet.

Houses upon the westside thereof are Carintoun Town, Dalhousie, Newbotle.

128. There is of stone bridges upon this Water, one under Dalkeith, one under Newbotle, one at the head of the Town of Newbotle and one at Dalhousie.

Betwixt North Esk and South Esk, before they be joined in one, the distance being but small, and the ground for the most part not fertile, except a little above Dalkeith, the houses of note are situate upon the water side, as is before expressed, except Whitehill House, which is situate betwixt the said two Waters against Carintoun, as ye go to Rosline.

The Water of Garre takes its beginning a little above the Castle of Borthwick, and Halflakill, and descending West or Northwest by the space of        miles, falls in the Water of Southesk at the point where the House of Shank is situate betwixt the Waters of South Esk        and has a large prospect of both.

Houses upon this water are first Halflakill, Castle of Borthwick, Newbires, and the Hous of Shank, where the said Water is joyned to Southesk standing upon the point, as said is.

The Water of Tine takes its beginning or source a little above Crichtoun Wood and descending northeast by the space of 4 miles within this Shire, thereafter running through a

great part of East Lothian Shire, is joynd to Forth at Tynningame.

Houses upon the east side thereof beginning at the head and descending northward are the Castle of Crichtoun, Foord, Over Cranston, little Preston. Houses upon the westside, beginning at the head and descending northward are Lochquharret, Hagbrae, Vogrie, Foord, and Nether Cranstoun.

There is betwixt the Water of Tine and South Esk, beginning at the south end thereof, and descending northward, Stobhill, Southside, Westhouses, Mastertoun, Bryane, Easthouses, Coats, Fordell, Langside, Carbery, Cousland, Walifoord.

There is upon the East of the Water of Tine betwixt and the march of East Lothian, the Towns of Wester and Easter Crichtons, Turnidikies, Corstorphin, Fala with the Place thereof, Sauchneill and Cackmoor.

The only water in this shire that runs southward is the Water of Gala which has its rising from Falahill, and running <sup>129.</sup> southward by the space of 6 or 7 miles in this shire, thereafter is joynd to the River Tweed at Bowside within the Shire of Teviotdale.

Houses upon the Westside, beginning at the head and descending downward are Falahill, Heriothouse, Halltree, Boulands. Houses upon the eastside thereof Cartleferrie, Crookstoun, Hoppringle, Stow Town, Torsonce.

The Burgh of Edr. is the only Burgh Royal in this Shire, the Towns of Musselburgh and Dalkeith are Mercat Towns.

The Castle of Edr. is naturally a great strenth situate upon the top of a high Rock perpendicular on all sides, except on the entry from the burgh, which is a stay ascent and is well fortified with strong Walls, three gates each one within another, with Drawbridges, and all necessary fortifications.

There are many great houses, and large in this Shire but the most considerable is the House and Castle of Dalkeith pertaining to the Earl of Buccleuch, standing upon the point at the joyning of South and North Esk, which has a large Park with a Wood and store of Deer joynd thereto.

The House of Newbottle is well built; pleasantly situate upon South Esk, having a little Park and some Deir therein adjoynd thereto.



The Castle of Dalhousie upon South Esk is a strong and large Castle with a large Wall of Aslure work going round about the same, with a tower upon ilk corner thereof.

The Castle of Borthwick is a great and strong Tower all of Aslure work within and without, and of great height. the Wall thereof being about 15 foot of thickness. It has an excellent Wellspring in the bottom without digging, and a house of good lodgings and well lighted.

The Castle of Crichton is a well built and strong House, it is well situate with the Park and Wood thereof adjoyning thereto.

The Palace of Calder is a large and great House pleasantly situate upon a Mote being environed upon all sides with Waters, with a large Wood upon the southside thereof, wherein is the prospect of seven or eight miles of plain ground westward.

Haltoun is an house of great strenth and well built of Aslure work with a strong Mantle Wall round about the same.

Rosline standing upon Northesk is pleasantly situate upon the head of a Rock, having the Water running close by the foot of the Craig, and environed upon all sides with Woods. The entry thereof is at the top of the house by a DrawBridge to the bridge upon the Water running by the foot thereof. The Vaults and houses thereof are cutted out of the whole Craig, and the stairs and passages descending thereto in like manner are cutted out of the whole Craig; so that each Vault or house cutted out of the said Craig, consists but of one stone.

The Chappel of Rosline is the most curious stone work in this kingdom, so that to the eye of man, nothing can be more exquisitly wrought upon stone.

Upon the east of Rosline at Hawthornden there is a large Cove with two or three Rooms ilk one within another, having but one entry, quilk is unpassable except at one part where the entry goes along by the breadth of a deal, having the Water 30 or 40 fathoms beneath the face of the Craig, whereinto the said Cove enters just above.

To the south of Libertoun Kirk there is a Wellspring which

sends up with the Water an Oyl or rather a Balsam reasonable thick and fat. This Balsam is gathered and preserved by the Heritors 10 moneths of the Year, and is a sovereign cure for wrests, Akings &c.

This Shire consists of two Presbyteries, Edinburgh and Dalkeith. The Parishes belonging to the Presbytery of Edinburgh are six Parish Churches within the Burgh of Edinburgh with twelve Ministers and                   moe to be provided, the Church of Holyroodhouse or Chanongate two <sup>131</sup>. Ministers. The Landward belonging to this Presbytery are eleven, South Leith, North Leith, Dudistoun, Libertoun, St. Cuthberts, Hails, Corstorphin, Cramond, Currie, Ratho, Kirknewtown.

It is to be remembred that the Parishes of Calder Cleer, Calder and West Calder are in this Shire, but in the Presbytery of Linlithgow.

The Presbytery of Dalkeith consists of Parishes viz. :—Inner-Esk, Newtoun, Dalkeith, Leswade, Glencorse, Pennycook, Newbotle, Cockpen, Carintoun, Temple, Heriot, Borthwick, Crichtoun, Cranstoun, Fala.

It is to be remembred that the Parish of Stow is in this Shire but in the Presbytery of Earlestoun.

This Shire is abundantly provided with all necessaries for the Inhabitants and is fertile of corns of all sorts, as Wheat, Barley, Rie, Oats and Pease, and has good pasturage for bestiall and entertains a great many of horses for carrying all sorts of provisions from the Villages adjacent to the Burgh of Edr., especially Ale for drink, and Coal for fewell. And in respect the Burgh of Edr. is a mile distant from the harbour of Leith, there are a great many horses kept by Carriers for carrying from Leith to Edr., all sorts of Merchandise and Commodities that come in by sea.

The Hills in the Shire are Pictland hills or Penthland hills which go in a tract from the east to the west through a great part of this Shire, Neills Craigs, Corstorphin hills, but the most renowned are the Hills of Salisbury, and Arthur Seat, both within a large Park environed with a stone wall above four miles in circuit built by King James the fifth for the use of his Palace of Halyroddhouse.

This Shire hath much coal and lime stone in all parts thereof and is reasonably well planted with Noblemen and Gentlemen houses and hath some woods as at Dalkeith, Newbotle, Dalhousie, Crichton, Rosline and Calder.

The RELATION of GRAHAMES DIKE with  
the FORTS and FORTIFICATIONS that are  
upon it.

Imprimis Grahames Dike begins betwixt the Queens Ferry & Abercorn and goes along West by the Grange & by Kinneil and comes to Innereven in West Lothian, and from Inner-even to the Falkirk and be west the Falkirk there is a Town quilk has been of old a great Town called Camelon. And from Camelon the Dike goes directly to the Forrest of Comernald, and there is a great Fort and great building called Castle Kæney.<sup>1</sup> And from this fort the Dike goes through the Forrest, till it come to another great fort with a building called the Barhill, where there has been many fine stones with pictures and superscriptions on them, quilk My Lord of Kilsyth has to shew. And from the Fort of the Barhill, the Dike goes along west to the Peel of Kirkintilloch where has been the special Fort and Castle of all, with a great Building, and great Foussees, with Rampires and all thir Forts with the Buildings, are in the bounds of the E. of Wigtoun in a Barony of Land called the Barony of Leinzem and within the Shire of Lennox. And from Kirkintilloch this Dike goes along west to the West sea-bank at Dumbarton and there it ends at the entry of the River of Clide, that enters into the sea. But there are no Forts upon the Dike but thir; only there is a great Ditch that goes over upon the northside of the Dike hard by it, and there is from the beginning of the Dike at the East sea-bank to the West sea-bank some 36 miles: and as the report speaks, that betwixt Castle Kaney & Barhill is some 5 miles. There was a secret Convoy under the ground that made them acquaint, if there was any treason begun at the first Fort to the next quilk was the Barhill, and from the Barhill the like sound went to the Peel and Castle of Kirkin-

<sup>1</sup> 'Carey' [interlined].

tilloch being other five miles betwixt one sound under the ground. Here is all that I can shew you in this business.

ANOTHER Relation of the same DIKE.

The trace of this Fortification beginneth betwixt Abercorn <sup>133.</sup> and the Queensferry. Besides the Rampire and Ditch with the Rooms thereof all along it had many square Fortifications in form of a Roman Camp. It went west from Abercorn towards Kinneil, then to Innereven at Langtoun a mile be west Falkirk: a Fort at the Rounetreeburnhead, a fort at Wester Coudoun, above Helens Chappell, one at Croyhill and one at Caliby, that at the Kirkwood over the Croyhill, on the top of Barhill: a great one, and at Belchester over against the Barhill, at Archindeavie, at Kirkintilloch, at East Calder, at Hiltoun of Calder, at Balmadie, at Symmerstoun, and over Kelvin River at Carrestoun, at Auchterminume, at the Roche hill over against the Wester Wood at Blantyre, over against Castle Carry at Dunglass.

DESCRIPTION of the SHERIFFDOM of RAN-  
FROW holden of the Princes and Stewarts  
of Scotland described by . . . SCHAW of  
GREENOK and Mr. JAMES MONTGOMERIE  
of WEITLANDS.

The Sherifffdom of Ranfrow has upon the north the river of Clide separating it from the Sherifffdom of Dumbarton, except a little part of the Parish of Ranfraw, quilk lyes benorth Clide. It is joyned on the west to Dumbarton shire, and on the east to the Sherifffdom of Lanerick.

On the west and south it borders with the Sherifffdom of Air and the part thereof called the Baillery of Cunningham marcheth with the Burn called Kellie Burn.

The River of Clide lyes on the north side of this Shire, famous and portable for ships of great burden for ten miles.

There are in this Shire three Waters. The first is called Greiff running out from the moor countries, on the Westside



of this Shire & runs by the space of nine miles eastward till it fall in Clide near the Burgh of Ranfrow.

The second is Blackart, having its beginning from the  
 134. Loch of Castle Sempill within the Parish of Lochquhinnoch, and runs eastward 5 miles, till it fall into Greiff.

The Water of Quhyttcart coming from the moors on the south side of this Shire runs by the space of        miles northwest till it fall in Greiff, qlk, as is before said, carries the other two with it into Clide.

The length of this Shire is from Kellie Burn to Polmadie at the March of Lanerick 20 miles long and 8 miles of breadth at the broadest part.

It is for the most part a plain ground without any great hills. The west and south parts of it moorish, and the rest fit both for Corns & Cattel. It has in it Coals, Limestone and peats for fewel.

The Woods are Crookstoun, Hawkwood, Pollok, Howstoun, and Barrachane, besides other lesser Woods.

In this Shire at a part called the Knok on Greiff near Ranfrow was King Robert called Bleareye, cutted out of his mothers womb by Sir John Forrester of Elliestoun, who being hazarded in extremity to use that remedy to preserve the childs life, the Queen having there taken her child-ill, being on the feilds and dying, the child being quick in her belly. Who before that was reputed a simple man, from whence the House of Sempill and Lords thereof have their name and a part of their Estate. In memory whereof there is yet a Stone Pillar erected and standing in that place.

In it is the Rounne hill called the Langside, where was fought that feild betwixt Mary of Scotland and the E. of Murray Regent called the Feild of Langside, where she was defeated and forced to fly to England, her son King James being then but two years of age.

In it there is but only one Burgh Royal called Ranfrow, and the Burgh of Regality of Paslay, with one Abbacy of Paslay, qlk now is the chief Dwelling house of the Earles of Abercorn.

There is in it one Presbytery, having 16 Kirks viz:  
 135. Cathcart, Eastwood, Eglisham, Mearns, Ranfrow, Paislay,

Neilstoun, Kilbrachan, Lochquhinnoch, Houstoun, Inchinnen, Arrestrem, Kilmacolm, Greinok, and Innerkip. The Parishes of Cathcart and Eastwood are adjoyned to the Presbytery of Glasgow, all the remanent is called the Presbytery of Paislay.

The most considerable Houses in this Shire are Crookstoun pertaining to the Duk of Lennox, Pownoon pertaining to the E. of Eglintoun, Cathcart, Over Pollok, Nether Pollok, the Castle of the Mearns belonging to the E. of Nidesdale, Cardonall pertaining to the Lord Blantyre, Cochrane pertaining to the Lord Cochran, Hawkwood to the Lord Ross. Caldwell, Castle Sempill to the Lord Sempill. Craiganes, Ramforlie, Auchnames, Blaikstoun. Castle of Howstoun a strong Hold, Barruchane, Boghall, Areskin, Bishoptown, Finlastown pertaining to the E. of Glencarne, Newark, Duchill, Greinok, Gorrok, Ardgowan, Dunrod, Allerslie, from which has descended W<sup>m</sup> Wallace sometime Governour of the Armies of Scotland.

There are no other Lochs, except the Loch of Castle Sempill wherein is a stone house vaulted.

Bridges in the Shire are Paslay, Pollok, Johnstoun, Ramforlie, Calder, Kellie & Allerslie, &c.

### DESCRIPTION of the SHERIFFDOM of WIGTOUN by Sir ANDREW AGNEW of LACHNAW and DAVID DUMBAR of BALDOON.

The Sherifffdom of Wigtoun has upon the east and south the Stewartrie of Kirkecudbright, and is divided therefra by a Ferry of 4 miles of breadth called the Water of Cree being of that breadth 12 miles up and from that Ferry northward up the said Water of Cree.

The Baillerie of Carrick within the Sherifffdom of Air <sup>136</sup> bounds the said Sherifffdom of Wigtoun on the north and upon the West with the Irish Sea, and bounds upon the south by the sea quilk is betwixt Scotland and the Isle of Man.

The length of this Shire is from the Mule of Galloway to the Water of Cree 30 miles and fra the Isle of Quhithorn to the Rounetree 30 miles being the breadth of the same.

The principal Rivers within this Shire are first the River of Cree, quilk borders or divides the Shire from the Stewartry, and has its source from Carrick, quilk River abounds with salmons, and Spurlings, and falls in the sea at the sands of Wigtoun.

The next River is Blaidzenoch flowing from Loch Maban, and montanous parts of Penninghame, abounding with salmon and goes the length of 20 miles ere it fall in the sea at the sands of Wigtoun.

Into which River runs the Water of Tarff flowing from Airtfeild in the moors of Luce and falls in the River under Cracchlie.

The Water of Malzie flowing from the Loch of Moch Rome runs by Creloch and falls in the said River at Dalrygle.

The Water of Luce flowing from the Carrick March goes 12 miles ere it falls in the sea at the sands of Luce.

In this Water there runs in the Croce Water flowing from Airtfeild and runs 6 miles ere it fall in Luce at the Moorkirk.

The Water of Solburn flowing from Lochconnal runs 4 miles ere it fall in Lochryene.

Poltantoun flowing from Auchnatroch runs 8 miles ere it fall in the sea at Luce.

Abbacies are Glenluce and Saltside. Pories Whithorn.

In it there are two Presbyteries Wigtoun & Stranraar.

137. In Wigtoun Presbytery there are 9 Kirks viz: Wigtoun, Monygoof, Penninghame, Kirkowane, Mochrome, Glassertoun, Quhithorn, Sorbie, Kirkineir.

In Stranraar there are 9 Kirks viz: Stranraar, Staniekirk, Kirkcovenant, Glenluce, Inche, Leswead, Kirkcunie, Port Montgomerie and the Moor kirk of Luce.

Names of the Saltwater Lochs that run in the land are Lochryan and Luce, qlk environs the Presbytery of Stranraar so near that it makes it a Peninsula, seeing there the two Lochs the one upon the south, and the other on the north are only 3 or 4 miles distant.

Loch Ryan runs in the land 10 miles from the north sea, and ceaseth betwixt Innermessan and Stranraar.

Luce Loch runs fra the Mule of Galloway to the Craigs of Craig Nargat 16 miles, where it ceaseth upon the Mochrome

shore in the mouth whereof there ly three Rocks called Bigistarrs.

Fresh-Water Lochs in Stranraar Presbytery are the Loch of Dalskeilpin, being half a mile of breadth and a myle of length.

The Lochs of Inchcrynneil and Inche, wherein stands a Tower called Castle Kennedy belonging to the E. of Cassils with sundry other Lochs, with the Loch of Saltside, whereupon the old Abbacy stands.

Lochnair Loch belonging to the Sheriff of Wigtoun, wherein the Kings of old had an House, beside qlk stands the House of Lachnaw.

Principal Houses in this Shire are Drūmoir, Logan, Ardwall, Killessar, Balgregan, Clonyeart, Garffland, Dunskey, Lochnair, Corswall, Gladienoch, Chappel, Castle-Kennedy, Innermessan, Craig-Caffie, Park, Synenes and Carstreoche.

Salt Water Lochs within the Presbytery of Wigtoun are the Loch of Wigtoun 4 miles broad, and 8 in length, on quilk <sup>138.</sup> Loch there is a Bank of shells that furnishes the Countrey with Lime and never diminishes the samine being burnt with Peats.

Fresh Water Lochs in that Presbytery are Applebee, one mile of breadth and half a mile of length, Ravenstoun of the like quantity, the Quhite Loch of Mairtoun, quhilk never freezes, whereon the Laird of Mairtouns House stands.

In the Loch of Mochrome, there are bred a number of herons and wild Geese with other Fowls.

The Lochs of Ochiltrie, Lochmaberie & Lochcronall.

The Castles of Iyll, Glassertoun, Feisgill, Wig, Ravenstoun Crugiltoun, Mairtoun, Barmbaro, Broughtoun, Baldoon, Torhouse, Grange, Craiglaw, Mochrome, Castle Stewart, and Cleray.

Burghs Royal in this Shire are Wigtoun being the Head burgh of the Shire, having a good Harbour, beside qlk stands the ancient Monument of King Galdus, from whence the Shire has its name, called Gallovidia. The other Burgh is Quhithorn, wherein the Priorie stands.

Burghs of Barony Stranraar, and Innermessan.

Harbours Loch Ryan, Port Montgomerie, the Isle of Quhithorn and Wigtoun.



## DESCRIPTION of MURRAY.

The Countrey of Murray has the beginning thereof at the Water of Spey and extends in length to the Water of Ness 34 miles in length.

It has the German Sea upon the North and Northwest ; qlk divides Murray from Caithness, Sutherland and Ross.

It is fertile of Corn and Grass, in pleasantness and plenty of fruit trees with all, if not before any Countrey in Scotland.

139. It has within it the Shiress of Elgin and Forres, the Shire of Nairne and a part of the Shire of Innerness.

The chief Clans or names of the Inhabitants are these. In the East betwixt Spey & Lossie is the name of Innes, having for their Chief the Laird of Innes, qlk is an ancient family. Be west Lossie the name of Dumbar, whereof there are sundry Families, having for their Chief, the Sheriff of Elgin and Forress. Further West in the Countrey is the Name of Ross, having for their Chief, the Baron of Kilravok. At the farthest West part is the Name of MakIntosh called the Clanchattan having for their Chief the Laird of MakIntosh.

The Chieff Castles and Fortalices in the Countrey are these, the Tower of Coxton, the Palace of Speynzie, qlk is the Bishop of Murray his seat, situate upon a fair Loch 4 miles in length, and one in breadth, wherein may swim many Pikes and Gads ; the Castle of Elgin, the Kings House demolished by the Danes ; whereof remains now nothing but Redding ; the Castle of Duffins pertaining to the Laird of Duffins, the Castle of Plewlands belonging to the Marques of Zer, the Castle of Buge belonging to Robert Dumbar of Buge ; the Castle of Blair belonging to Patrick Dumbar of Blair ; the Castle of Alles belonging to Rob<sup>t</sup>. Cung of Alles. the Castle of Dumphara belonging to Dumbar of Dumphara, the Castle of Davey belonging to My Lord Murray ; the Castle of Maynes belonging to the Laird of Maynes, the Castle of Pemlo belonging to Divn of Eastgrange ; the Castle of Intothe belonging to Zey of Perto ; the Castle of Castle Stewart belonging to My Lord Murray, the Castle of Dalcus belonging to My Lord Lowel, the Castle of Balra Castle, belonging to the Laird of Grant.

There are in the Countrey of Murray, only two Monasteries viz: the Monastery of Kings, wherein was an Abbot and 140. Vault for Monks; the Monastery of Pluscarty, wherein was a Prior and 12 Monks.

The Burghs in this Countrey are the Burgh of Elgin situate on the Water of Lossie, the Burgh of Forress situate near to the Water of Fudore, the Burgh of Nairne and Innerness which has the Water of Ness running through the Town.

The Chief Rivers are Spey, Lossie, Fudore, Nairne, Ness, whereof Spey, Fudore and Ness are very fertile of salmon fishing.

The Chief Ports and Harbours for receipt of ships are Spey, Fudore and Ness.

There are thirty eight Parish Kirks in it.

### DESCRIPTION of the SHERIFFDOM of LANERICK by Sir W<sup>m</sup> BAILLIE of LAMINTOUN and W<sup>m</sup> BAILLIE of CARPHIN.

The Sherifffdom of Lanerick is divided in two Wards to wit the Over and Nether Wards of Clidsdale, and bounds with the Stewartry of Annandale, qlk is a part of the Sherifffdom of Nidesdale, on the south east, the Sherifffdome of Drumfreiss on the south, the Sherifffdome of Air upon the southwest, the Shirifffdom of Ranfrow on the Northwest, the Sherifffdom of Dumbarton on the North, the Sherifffdom of Stirling on the Northeast, and the Sherifffdom of Linlithgow called West Lothian on the east, and the Sherifffdom of Mid Lothian a litle to the South east & the Sherifffdom of Peebles on the south parts.

This Shire is in length fra Errikstane to Partik Bridge 40 miles and in breadth in the broadest part 24 miles and the narrowest part 16.

The principal River is the River of Clide having its beginning at Errikhill, alias little Clides hill, and runs through the midle of the whole Shire, and exoners itself at the sea through 141. Dumbarton Shire.

The Rivers running into Clide are Daer Water flowing from the Well pethe running four miles in length before it fall in Clide.

Porttrail Water flowing fra Kirkhope head running 4 miles before it fall in Clide, and falls in the Water of Meitines and then runs in to Clide beside Crooked Stanes upon the southside of Clide.

The Water of Glennuchan flowing from the hill of Luthers runs three miles, ere it fall in Clide, upon the southside of the said River.

The Water of Glaspine flowing fra the Glaspine hill, runs a mile, ere it come to Clide beside Nether Newtown.

Aluine Water flowing from the Luthers, runs about 4 miles, ere it fall in Clide at Nether Newtown.

Hartcleuch Water flowing fra the Hartcleuch Hills runs 5 miles ere it fall in Clide at the Castle of Crawford.

Campe Water flowing fra Couter Stane height runs 6 miles, ere it falls in Clide at the said Castle of Crawford.

Glengonar Water flowing fra the Luthers, runs 4 miles, ere it falls in Clide at the Southwood.

Cald Chappel Water flowing fra the hill called the Ragg'd Hill falls in Clide at the Cald Chappel.

Dinidine Water flowing fra the Hill of Carneteldar, falls in Clide at Midding Coatts being 12 miles.

Craik Water flowing fra the Quhitcleuch, goes into the Sherifdome of Nidesdale by the Sauchall.

Wardill Burn flowing from Birnok head runs 3 miles ere it fall in Clide at Davidshall.

Robertoun Burn coming fra Hartoun hill, runs 4 miles and falls in Clide at Malmegates Bour.

142. Hartside Burn coming fra Bontakhead falls in Clide, foreanent the house of Bagbie.

Lamintoun Burn flowing fra the Smagill hill running 4 miles in length falls in Clide.

Gerff Water flowing fra Tyntoche hill runs 4 miles of length ere it fall in Clide foreanent Lamintoun.

Eastertoun Burn coming fra the hill Montjadifoord runs 2 miles of length and falls in Clide at the Quhithill.

The Daniel Burn flowing from the top of Tynto mountain runs two miles, ere it fall in Clide foreanent Lamintoun.

The Laudie moor Burn coming fra Tynto runs about 2 miles, ere it fall in Clide above Symingtoun.

Couter Water coming fra Kingsbekhead runs 4 miles and falls in Clide beneath Coulter Mains.

Biggar Water flowing from Bizziebiggarhead runs 2 miles and falls in Clide beside Drumalzeart.

The two mile Burn coming fra Elfrickle Bog down by Skirling falls into Biggar Water, and then to Tweed.

The Kirk Burn coming fra Tynto two miles, ere it fall in Clide beneath Annystoun.

Blaikburn coming fra Tynto 3 miles, ere it fall in Clide above Covingtoun.

Cathquanne Burn coming fra Schallhill falls in Clide foreanent Coldingtoun.

The two Medane Waters falling in Clide betwixt Carnwath and Libertoun 6 miles long.

Mons Water coming fra the Corswood hill, runs in Clide above the Stanebyres being 8 miles.

Clowburn Water on the Westside comes fra Carmichael hill <sup>143</sup> and falls in Clide at Clowburn Mill.

Sandies Burn coming from the Howgate flows from the North side of Tynto and falls into Clide.

Douglass Water coming fra Carnetaboll runs into Clide about 10 miles, and falls therein above the Bonytoun Lin.

To this Water of Douglass runs in the Burns of Parkburn Venigtoun Burn, Eisilside Burn, Nethane Water coming fra the Hills of Cūmarheads ten miles long ere it fall in Clide beneath Caignethane, the Fidler Burn, qlk comes from Kinkego law 3 miles in length, and falls in Clide at the Crocefoord, the Forrest Kirk Burn coming from Kilkego law, runs 4 miles and falls in Clide at the Miltoun and Maulslie, the Henschaw Water coming from the Kingslaw, and eastward runs into Clide at Garyne, being 4 miles in length, Disserf Burn coming fra the West called Calder Moss, runs into Clide at the town of Disserf, South Calder Water coming fra the Blackstane, runs 10 miles and falls in Clide foreanent Hamiltoun, North Calder flowing fra the Blackloch, being twelve miles falls in



Clide at Calder Bridge, Evin Water coming fra the Glen-gavells, runs into Clide 12 miles above Hamiltoun at Rosevin, Reezoche Water coming fra the Loch heads runs into Clide 6 miles through the town of Hamiltoun, and falls in the same at the Nether town of Hamiltoun. Rottin Calder Water coming fra the heads of Evindale beneath Bothwell Castle about 10 miles. Tivitt goes into Clide at Dilenvie being 2 miles, Mormeer coming fra Dechmont hills, falls into Clide above the Ferme. Ruglan Burn coming fra Cathkine hill 4 miles falls in Clide beneath Ruglan, the Langside burn being 2 miles falls in Clide at Over Govan, Blackart coming fra Cathkine hill runs 10 miles through Renfrow, ere it come to Clide, Powcorse Burn coming fra the Provin Lochs runs into Clide at Ardgray 4 miles, Camelekic Burn coming fra Salmbræ, runs into Clide at Bogilshow, Port Glasgow Burn runs through a part of Glasgow and runs to Clide at the bridge thereof two miles.

Burghs Royal, in this Shire are Glasgow, Lanerick and Ruglan.

Burghs of Barony, Hamiltoun, Crawford, Biggar, Carnwath, Douglass and Evindale.

One Abbacy to wit Lismahagow and the Provestry of Bothwell.

The principal Houses are Hamiltoun, Douglass, Bothwell Castle, Craig of Blantire, Lamintoun, Crawford, Covingtoun, Biggar, Carmichael. the Lie, Corhouse, Stanebyres, Carnwath, Cleghorn, Jariswood, the Miltoun, Maulslie, Disserf, Castlehill, Evindale, CraigNethan, the Monkland, Orbistoun, Carphin, Lachobe, Carnebroo, Cleland toun, Dalyell. the Ferm, Lickprivick, Rapluch, Cassiltoun, Broomhill, Stenhouse, Patrickholm, Torrens, Calderwood, Mayns of Kilbryde, Cathkine, Gilbertfeild, Murdestoun, Allantoun, Cultness, Murrows, the Hags, Faskine, Woodhall, Inchnoche, Provin, Airdrie, Rossevin, Jervistoun.

There were Gold Mines found in K. James the 5<sup>th</sup>s time and Gold on Lamintoun yet, and fine Lead Mines in Glengonar Water at Symingtoun.

There is in this Shire abundance of coals, Lime stones and Peets for fewel.

Woods are Hamiltoun Wood, Stanebyres, Miltoun, Cam-nethan, Cleghorn, Jariswood, Jervestoun, Dalyell, the Rossevin, <sup>145.</sup> Bothwell, the Park of Bothwell, the Castlewood, the Monkland with sundry other woods there, the Woods of Lismahagow.

The Lochs in this Shire are Carstairs, Carnwath, Cudilie Loch, Lanerick, the Headloch, the groundless Loch, the Lochwatts, Provin Loch, Garvirie, Gartsharie, Garqueme, Banheth Loch.

It hath store of Grass, Corn and Fishes of all sorts, the Over Ward most for pasturage, the Nether Ward for corns.

The Chief Hills are Luthers, Tynto, Darngavell, Mont Inervar, Kingsbek heicht, Coulter heichts, Darnoch heichts, Hurillbury heichts, the Ragged-gill heichts, Dechmont Hill, Bissieberry Hill, Quathquanne Law, Carnetabell, the Blackhill above the Stanebires, the Kings law.

DESCRIPTION of the SHERIFFDOM of  
ROXBURGH by Sir Wm. SCOT of  
HARDEN, and ANDREW KER of SINLAWS.  
27 December 1649.

The Sherifffdom of Roxburgh on the south, bounds with Cheviot hills, all along to the West of Kershope foot within 6 miles of Sulway sands, on the West, it marches with Eusdale and Eskdale, and on the North west with the Sherifffdom of Selkirk till ye come to Gala mouth and up Gala 6 miles and goes to Lidder Water foreanent Couldanknows and on the North and Northeast with a part of Lothian and the Merse.

It is in length 26 miles, and in breadth 16 miles.

The principal River is Tiot, from whence the Shire has its name qlk comes from Esk in England, and from the March in Nidesdale called Tiots Stane, and runs fra the West to the east, till it go in to Tweed at Kelso, and there tynes its name and is in length 26 miles.

Waters running in to it, are Frostile Burn, qlk begins at <sup>146.</sup> Hard well, and runs into Tiot at the Falineshe.

The Forkin Burn quilk begins 3 miles above the Falinshe and runs into Tiot at the said Falineshe.

Ellem Water quilk begins at the head upon Angus Hope and runs into Tiot, at Allane Maithe two miles above Branxholme.

Slitrik quilk begins at Stenhouse Hope, and runs into Tiot, within the Town of Hawick.

The Water of Reule begins at Wauchophead and runs down to Tiot entering in therein at the Spittle of Reule being eight miles of length.

Jedd Water beginning at the Quheill Causey in the border of England runs to Jedburgh, where it has a bridge and enters Tiot a mile beneath Jedburgh.

Oxnam Water begins at the Redswyre and runs into Tiot at Crailing 8 miles of lenth.

Kaill Water comes fra the Hynmoorwell, on the Border of England and runs into Tiot at Ekfoord and is 10 miles of length.

All the former Waters come from the south border of England & run on the south side of Tiot.

On the north side are the following Waters.

Borthwick begins at Craikcorse, marching with Eskdale and runs into Tiot foreanent Gaudiland, quilk is 10 miles of length.

Gall Water flows out of Calmoor Loch two miles above Quhittis laid, and runs into Tiot att Ancram Bridge, quilk will be 14 miles of length.

Tweed River enters Teviotdale at Sunderlandhall and runs down by Kelso to Redding, where on the southside of it is English ground & on the northside is the Merse, till it go down to the sea at Berwick.

7. The foot of Gala Water enters Tweed in Teviotdale two miles above Melros.

Lider enters Tweed in Teviotdale a mile beneath Melros.

Idin Water enters Tweed foreanent Redding.

All thir are upon the Northside of Tweed.

In Teviotdale also is the Water of Liddill running West to Meirburn, and fra that to Cannabie in Esk, and is in length 16 miles.

Hermitage Water begins at Bilhope, and runs into Liddill about a mile under Cassiltounkirk.

The head of Bewmont Water begins at the Cocklaw in the border of England, and runs eastward, till it come to the Stawfoord and there tynes its name, and goes to England.

The Abbacies in this Shire are Melross, Kelso, and Jedburgh : the first on Tweed, second on the same at the foot of Tiot, and Jedburgh on the Water of Jedd.

The principal Houses on Tiot are the Falineshe, Branks-holme, the Tower of Hawick, Cavers, Mynto, Ancram, Newtown, Crailling, Mostower, the demolished Castle of Roxburgh where K. James the 2<sup>d</sup> was killed with the Wedge of Canon at the seige thereof.

On Slitrik are Stobbs and Alderstoun Scheills.

On Reule are Woolie, Hallreule & Bedreule.

On Jedd Edgertoun, Dolphinstoun, Fairnyhirst, Hundilie, Bon Jedwart. Hunthill, and the Tower.

On Oxnam Craig & Crailling Hall.

On Kaill, Quhittom, Corbet, Castle of Cesford and Throkden.

On Bewmont, Mow and Lochtower. On Borthwick Harden.

On Gall, Quhittisleit, Swyntoun, Jeshaw, Riddill, Cavers and Chappel.

On Tweed the Floors, M'Kerstane and Smellame Craigs. 148.

This shire is plenteous of all sorts of grain, and store of Cattell but no other elding but Peats and Heather.

The Mountains therein are the Cocklaw, from qlk there runs a full track of hills going along westward dividing Scotland fra England, qlk is only passable at some few parts, and so the names of them need not here to be particularised.

There is another Tract of Hills going fra Hardwell, qlk runs along to Craikcross being 12 miles.

Within the body of this Shire are thir Hills, Ralburghlaw, Mynto hill, and Haddingtoun hills.

The Lochs in this shire are Scheilswood Loch, Askirk Loch, Caldsheil Loch, a Loch at Fallinside, Lintoun Loch, Lochtower Loch, Wynburghlaw Loch, on the head of the Hill, Ormstoun Loch, and Drinking Stone Loch.

The Battells stricken in this Shire are Lilliarts Corse, where the English were defeat, and the battel of Melross in James the 5<sup>th</sup>s his time and the battel at the Redswire.

The Woods are Branksholm Wood, the Colve Wood, Ancram Wood, Elludeane Wood, and Birk Wood.

It has only one Burgh Royal called Jedburgh with diverse burghs of Barony.



It is to be understood that Lidesdale is comprehended in this Shire whereof the Chief Castle is called Hermitage belonging to the E. of Buccleuch. The Lord Soules had in old time his stately Residence here.

49.

DESCRIPTION of the SHIREFDOM of  
SELKIRK by W<sup>M</sup> ELIOT of STOBBS  
& WALTER SCOT of ARKILTOUN.  
21 December 1649.

The Sherifffdom of Selkirk has the Baillerie of Lauderdale on the east & northeast, the Shirifffdom of Roxburgh, or Teviotdale on the east and south, the Shirifffdom of Nidesdale and Stewartry of Anandale on the West.

The length of it is from the pen of Etrikhead till the Water of Etrik fall in Tweed at Sunderlandhall and beneath that it runs two miles to the mouth of Gala, and up Gala to the Corshey and then out at the head of Caden, being of length 20 miles. At the head of the Forrest of Etrik, it is 12 miles in breadth, in the midst of the Shire, it is 8 miles in breadth and at the foot, it draws narrower, where the two Waters of Etrik and Yaro meet at Sunderlandhall, and there fall in Tweed as said is.

The Water of Etrik begins at Lochfell, called Etrikhead and meets with Yaro and both fall in together at Sunderlandhall as said is, and is in length 16 miles.

The Waters falling in Etrik are thir.

Tuna flowing out from the bounds of Nidesdale from Tomluther Crocestane entering in to Ettrik a little above Thirlstane.

The Water of Rankleburn coming fra Muddhave Loch enters

The Water of Yaro lyes on the Northside of Etrik has its source from Kirkhill, being there called Mucra Burn, quilk falls in the Over Loch of the Lowes, qlk Loch is both in length & breadth a mile, and fra that runs down to the Nether Loch thereof distant half a mile; then it runs fra the said Nether Loch, (qlk is two miles in length, and a mile and

a half in breadth) and getts the name of Yaro, and falls in Etrik betwixt Charterhauch & Philiphauch.

The Burns running into Yaro are Corsecleuch Burn coming fra the head of Kingsgrame and falling in betwixt the Loch <sup>150</sup> of the Lowes where it tynes its name.

Eltrive Burn flowing from Kingsgrame head falls into Yaro foreanent Momberger at the foot of Eldines Hope.

Sundhope Burn flows from Sundhope Edge and falls into Yaro foreanent the Catislake at the foot of Sundhope.

Kershope Burn comes off the March of Kirkhope and falls into Yaro beneath Deuchar.

Craighope Water falls off a Mountain called Caplaw and runs into Yaro beneath Deuchar foreanent the Tynnes.

On the head of Yaro upon the Northside thereof are these waters.

Douglass Burn flowing from the head of Maner Water in Tweddale and falls into Yaro at Momberger.

Lovineshope Burn falls out of the three heads in Tweddale & in Yaro above the Hangingschaw.

Philiphauch Burn runs fra the head of Williamlaw and down to Etrik foreanent Selkirk. Here James Grahame Marquess of Montrose got that notable defeat, qlk made him quite Scotland in anno 1645.

The over part of the Shire has no arable ground, but only is montanous and full of heichts fit for store and bestial, by several whereof the people are totally sustained. The lower part of it, has corns upon the Water sides.

It has no other fewel for fire but Peets and these digged out from the tops of the Mountains.

The great Hills are Lochfell called the Pen of Etrik'head, Glendary, Birkhill, Lochskeine, Falahead, Black Andrew, Caplane & Harehead.

The only free Burgh of the Shire is Selkirk.

The principal Houses are Newark Castle, Philiphauch, <sup>151</sup> Aikwood, Thirlstane, Kirkhope, Galaschiels, Torwodlie, Quhitebank, Blindlie, Yair, Fairnelie and Sunderlandhall.

The Newark was of old the Kings Property, and the Tower is 14 foot thick of the wall, standing on a Mote with a large Vale of ground beneath within a mile to the place,

where Yaro falls in Etrik. This was of old the Kings Forrest for his store and hunting, and for many ages the Queens of Scotland had it by Infestment for a part of their Dowry ; but it was fewed to the Lairds of Buccleuch for good service, by Queen Mary.

Williams Croce is the place, where one of the Earles of Douglass was killed of old. It stands in the height of an Edge beside Braidmeadows within a mile of Philiphauch.

It has only 4 Parish Kirks, Selkirk, Galascheils, the Mary Kirk of the Lowes *alias* Yaro Kirk, and the new Kirk of Etrik.

The principal Heritours are the Earles of Buccleuch, Traquair, Sir William Scot of Harden, Sir John Murray of Philiphauch, William Eliot of Stobbs, James Scot of Galaschiels, Pringles of Quhitebank, Torwoodlie, & Blindlie.

The Lochs are Cloburn Loch, the Pot Loch, the Kingside Loch, the Rachielaw Loch, Gosloch, the Lowe Loch, Elmoor Loch, Haremoor Loch, Aikermoor Loch, Twa Gildis Loch, Esynside Loch, Jeshur Loch, Hittringburn Loch, and Haining Loch.

Woods are Galashiels, Fairmilie, Yair, Newark, Aikwood, Harehead, Kirkhope.

In the Water betwixt the Lochs of the Lowes, there is a sort of Fish taken something more than a Herring called Redwaimbs qlk are never seen nor taken but betwixt All-Hallows, and Martimass, the space of ten days, being very savoury meat.

152. The Lochs abound with Pikes, Pearches and Eels, which are taken in there about Michaelmass and salted in punsheons for the peoples winter provision.

## DESCRIPTION of TWEDDALE.

Tweddale is so called from the river of Tweed which hath its source and rise at a place called Tweeds Cross, where it borders with Annandale & runs for the most part with a soft and gentle stream, not hemm'd in with strait & narrow Banks towards the east, the whole length of the Countrey to the March at Gaitock burn, and there beginneth to water the Forrest on both sides a little above the Elibank.

This countrey is bounded on the east with the Forrest ; on the south with part of the Forrest, St Mary Loch, and Annandale, on the west with the Over Ward of Clidesdale ; & on the north with part of Caldermoor, the head of North Esk and Mid Lothian.

The length of it from Tweeds Cross to Gaitock burn will be 26 Scots miles, and where it is broadest, not exceeding 16.

It containeth 17 Parish churches to wit. Linton, Newlands, Kirkuir, Lyne, Peebles, Athelstone, Innerleithin, Traquair, Maner, Dawick, Drumelzear, Stobo, Broughton, Glenholm, Tweedmoor, Kilbucko and Skirlin. These 17 make up a Presbytery called the Presbytery of Peebles, which is within the Diocese of Glasgow, whereof the Parson of Peebles hath been for many Ages the Arch-Deacon. The yearly Revenue will be 5000 merks *communibus annis*. The rest of the 16 Presbyters will have about 1000 merks yearly one with another, and Manse and Gleeb according to Act of Parlia<sup>t</sup> and custome of the rest of the countrey.

There is one Burgh Royal here, to wit Peebles, and two of Regality Linton, and Kilbucho of which more in their proper places.

This Countrey is generally swelled with hills, but for the most part green, grassy and pleasant, except a Ridge of bordering Mountains betwixt Minchmoor and Henderland,<sup>153.</sup> which are black and craggy, of a melancholy aspect, with deep and horrid Precipices, a weary and comfortless peice of way for travellers.

The Valleys are most of them pleasant, fertile of corn and meadow and excellently watered.

The chief and most conspicuous amongst the infinite number of Mountains in this Countrey are Hartfeild, Braidlaw Dollerlaw, Crammalcraig, Dundroich, Powbeat, Mendick, Fiendsfell (where the Eagle builds her nest, as she builds likewise at Talo Linn, Loch of the Lowes, and Loch Skeen in Annandale, and at the Ern Craig in the Parish of Pennicook) Kingseat, Kairnhill, Craigingar. Upon the top of the last black mountain in a large Quagmire grows abundantly the true *Cochlearia Britannica rotundifolia*, as likewise upon the tops of several



other barren Hills in Tweddale. Upon this Hill also grows the *Chamæ morus*.

The Countrey in regard of its hilly situation and difficulties of labour to answer the toyls of the Husbandman, is more fit for Pasturage, than the Production of Corn and Grain, and is stored with such numbers of sheep, that in Linton Mercats, (which are kept once a week during the moneths of June and July) there are sometime to be seen 9000 in the Customers Roll, and most part of all these sold and vended in one day.

They sow little Wheat or Pease, though they take very well with the soil, but have of Barley and Oats greater plenty than is sufficient for the Inhabitants, the lower and more fertile places supplying the barren and more moorish with Corns and producing as much more as pays many of their Martimass  
 154. Rents to their Master; especially the Water of Lyne, Athelstone & lower parts of Tweed.

The greatest want here is of Timber, there being but little Planting in Tweedale, except it be some few trees about the houses of the Gentry, and not one Wood in all this Countrey worth the naming; so that this want of foresight compells them to be obliged to Clidesdale for most of the timber necessary for their Houses & Husbandry.

For Fewel they use Peet and Turf, which is here in abundance. They have likewise a Coalpit at Carlops, and another in the Common of Linton, wherewith the most of the Gentry of the Shire are served.

Here is Marle and Limestone, the first whereof I found in ditching a peice of fat Meadow, that comes to the seed, & is mown twice a year, contiguous to the Damm of Romano Mill. It is likewise found toward the Garelfot, and about Blyth. The last I have not yet seen. All the Marle that I have taken notice of in this Countrey, is of a milk white colour. There is good Limestone found at the Wrae in the Parish of Glenholm at Spittlehauch, Coldcoat, Carlops, Garrelfoot, and Whitefeild, which in this part of the Shire especially is very much improven of late to the advantage of the Countrey in reducing many of the dry and barren Heaths to fertility and a fairer complexion.

They have freestone and hardstone, slate & scaillie, as good as is in Scotland, the best Quarries whereof are at Stobo and

Greistone and in this last place there is abundance of Lead for the taking of a little pains. Some of it was wrought and taken out by the present Countess of Traquair, but they were <sup>155.</sup> discouraged for want of Timber necessary for the purpose. Here are likewise the Silver Mines of Lead Law, half a mile above Linton commonly called the Silver Holes.

The Inhabitants of this Countrey are generally of strong, well proportioned, nimble bodies, and as comely features as any other Shire in the Kingdome, would but the meaner sort take a little more pains to keep their bodies & dwellings neat. And pity it is to see a good complexion and lovely countenance appear to so much disadvantage, through the foul disguise of smoke and dirt.

There will be of young and old in this Countrey about 8000 souls, and above 2000 of these, fencible men able to bear arms.

Their proportion of the Militia is 266 foot & 29 horse.

They are an industrious carefull people, yet something wilfull, stubborn and tenacious of old Customes. There are amongst them that will not suffer the wrack to be taken off their land, because, say they, it keeps the corn warm, nor plant trees for wronging the undergrowth, nor take pains upon their Hay to make it well smelled and coloured, because they allege musty Hay brings their Cows a Bulling, nor ditch and trench a peice of boggie ground for fear of the loss of 5 or 6 foot of grass for a far greater increase. And this humour with a Custome they have of overburdening their ground, which they call full plenishing, makes their Cattel generally small, lean and give a mean price in a market. But otherwise they are a provident laborious people far beyond their Neighbours in Annandale that possess a far better Countrey, would <sup>156.</sup> they take but half as much pains to improve it. Musick is so great a stranger to their temper, that you shall hardly light upon a one amongst three that can distinguish one Tune from another. Yet those of them that chance to hit upon the Vein, may match with the skilfullest. They are naturally more sober in their drinking and diet then their neighbouring Shires and when they fall in the humour of good fellowship, they use it as a cement and bond of society, and not to foment Revenge, Quarrels and Murders, which is too ordinary in other

places, so that upon trial, there hath not been a man discovered to have been murdered or mutilat in Tweddale since the Kings happy Restauration. And of so loyal and peaceable dispositions are they, that they have seldom or never appeared in Arms against their Prince, nor were there amongst that great number six persons from Tweddale at the Rebellion of Bothwell Bridge. Of their Loyalty they gave a singular testimony at the fight of Philiphaugh, where some of them were killed, and others the most eminent of their Gentry taken Prisoners.

The Lochs of this Countrey are first the great St. Mary Loch, the Water Loch of Blackbarony, and the Slipper feild Loch. St. Mary Loch is in circuit at least six miles, surrounded with pleasant green Hills and Meadows; the hills overspread with flocks of sheep and Cattel, the Rocks with herds of Goats, and the Valleys and Meadows with excellent corn and Hay. It is fed with several little Springs and Brooks but chiefly with the Water of Meggit which with a clear  
 157. stream runs gently down a long Plain and discharges itself prettily in its very bosom. And as this Loch owes its being to Meggit, so it gives birth to the Water of Yaro, which with a large and pleasant Current descends from the other end of this Loch, as its Spring and fountain, and from thence watereth the Woody Banks of the Forrest, untill it joyn Waters with Etrick, & both pay their tribute to Tweed a little below Sunderland haugh.

And it is observable, that a brisk wind from the South West, will make Yaro swell and overflow its bounds more than a great deal of rain, by driving the Water from the Loch furiously down the current.

In this Loch are Trouts, Eels, Pearches, Pikes and a kind of Fishes, called by the Countrey people Red Waimbs from the bloud red colour of their Belly. The fish itself is about the bigness of a herring with a forked tail. The Herds about Michaelmas use to take great numbers of them catching them in their Blankets at a little Rivulet that comes from the Loch of the Lowes into this, the two Lochs being almost one and divided by a very small nick of ground.

The Water Loch of Blackbarony will be in circuit near two

miles and is famous for the great number of Eels that are taken there, especially when the Wind blows smartly from the South. It's incredible what will be found in the artificial Ark built for the purpose, upon the following day.

The principal Waters of this Countrey are Tweed, Lyne and Maner, of less note are Atlestone, Quair, Tairth, Holm, Lithin, Meddin, Meggit, Frood, Talow and Biggar Water besides an infinite number of Burns, Brooks and Springs, that almost every where are seen trinkling down the green Hills with a melancholy but agreeable murmur.

The Water of Lyne beginneth at the Caldstanceslap, which is the March betwixt this Countrey and the Sherifffdom of Edinburgh and runneth pleasantly from North to South, the length of ten miles, and loseth its name into Tweed a little below the Bridge of Lyne. Upon this Water are three pretty <sup>158.</sup> little churches covered with slate; four Bridges, two of stone, the Brighthouse Bridge, and the Bridge of Lyne, the first of one Arch the second of three; and two of Timber with strong stone stools, the one at Lyntoun, the other at Newlands.

Upon this Water and near by it stand first Cairnmoor the old of the Lausons, in whose possession it is now, and hath been for some generations. Over against it is Barringail and further down Stainypath, Wakfeild, the Brighthouse with the Bridge and Brighthouse Mill and under that is the Town and Church of Linton, close upon the Water, in a large and grassy plain. This Town was in the Earle of Morton's time a Pendicle of Dalkeith, but was erected into a Burgh of Regality by the Earle of Traquair then Commissioner for this Kingdom. The Earle of Tweddale is now Lord of this Regality and distributes Justice by his Baillie, who is the Sheriff Depute for the time. The Inhabitants of this Town have still been a gentile and courteous people occasioned partly by their continual converse with strangers upon the road this being the high way from Edinburgh to Moffat, Drumfreis, and Carlisle, the Portioners being most of them the Offspring of the Douglasses Giffords and Twedies, but the old families are now decayed except the Youngers.

There are two fairs kept here yearly; the first upon the first of June, the second upon the first of September. Here is



likewise the greatest sheep marcat in the south of Scotland, which is kept once a week upon the Wedensday during the moneths of June and July. It was formerly holden at the Brighthouse, but translated hither by the late Earle of Teviot a little before his unfortunate Voyage to Tangier.

About this place grows the Laurell leav'd Willow to a greater body and height then I have observed any where else. A litle below this Town there is a peice of ground called the Temple land of Lintoun where after every flood there do appear the ends of a great many stone coffins, the soft mould  
 159. being washen away by the force of the Water. The stones are a broad Flagg close joyn'd together, where I found the Skulls, Leggs, Arms and Thigh bones of men. But when & upon what account these Bodies have been buried in this place after such a manner, is not positively determin'd, but I am inform'd these stone coffins are found in some other solitary places in Tweddale; the Bones are not discerned bigger then ordinary.

A little below this place, the West Water and Cairnburn, the first from the West, the other from the North East, fall into Lyne. The West Water in the old Charters called Polinturf, descendeth from the mountain of Craigingar, and runs the length of 4 miles and an half before it joyn with Lyne. Upon it stand the Slipperfield with the Loch before mentioned, two of which to wit the Yewthird and Middle third belonged of old to Pennicook of that Ilk, and was a Pendicle of that Barony: now they belong to James Russel of Kingseat Chief of that Name in this Countrey. Further down upon the highway stand the Houses called the West Water and the Braidhaugh. The Cairnburn riseth from a Moss a litle above the Over Whitfeild, and upon it are the Over and Nether Whitfeild. Here is found the best Limestone in Tweddale, and the dry Moors here produce copiously the *Genistella aculeata*, & in some places *Erica vulgaris hirsuta flore albo*. The next House upon the Water of Lyne is Spittlehaugh built anno 1678 by Richard Murray brother to the Laird of Blackbarony, to whom it now belongs. Next is the Kaimhouse, Boghouse, and Commonhaugh.

A little below this, Lyne receiveth into it the Dead Burn a

Water so called from the slowness and stilness of its motion. It hath its beginning near the Grange at a place called the Cross Well, and gently moving towards the South-west, waters a peice of plain and fertile ground the length of two miles & a half, & then pays its tribute to Lyne, a little below Romanno Mill, here is excellent Keel Stone. Upon the head of this stands first Romanno Grange, with a house builded anno 160. 1668 by Robert Hamilton, here grows plentifully the *Vaccinia palustria*. Then Coldcoat the old Dwelling of the Hamiltons repaired by Alexander Hamilton Macer to the Session and present Master thereof. Betwixt these Hamiltons of Coldcoat and the Murrays of Romanno there continued for many generations, a cruel and inveterate Feud with blood and slaughter on both sides, in which the Hamiltons for the most part got the worse. This barbarous Heat was in the end happily extinguished by the Marriage of Susanna Hamilton eldest daughter of the House of Coldcoat to William Murray Heir of Romanno. Further down is Burns Mill the noble House of Plewland formerly a Pendicle of the Estate of Coldcoat, now the Property and Dwelling place of Alexander Bailly of Callings. Near this place grows the *Ænanthe Aquatica* and *Meum*. Follows the Bogend and Hallmyre a pleasant stance & very capable of improvement. The House was built by the Laird of Drumelzear, but belongs for the present to a Nephew of the House of Blackbarony. Next is Romanno-Deans and Romanno Mill, and so we meet again with Lyne, & the old House of Romanno, which is situate at a little distance towards the Hill, and hath been for several 100 of years of one Family, the Romanno's of that Ilk. but the Heir Jonet Romanno marrying a brother of Philiphaugh changed the Name, but not the Stock, and ever since it hath continued in the name of Murray. The present Heiress being the seventh lineally descended of that Name married to Doctor Alexander Pennicook who is now Heritor of this place *Jure Mariti*. Near this place upon the skirts of Blythsmoor is found *Verbasculum Alpinum rubrum*. A short mile under Romanno stands the Church of Newlands, where is to be seen the Isle and Burial place of John Murray Brother to William Murray of Romanno, the first of the Honourable Family of

Stenhope. Upon the front of the Burial place are engraven  
 161. his Name arms and this Inscription.

Hic quia fonte sacro lotus sum saxea moles  
 Errigitur grati mnemosynon animi.

Here is likewise to be seen close by the Church yard, the place called Grahames Walls. And it is reported and very probably, that out of the ruines of this House was built the Church and the Tower house of the Whiteside, which stands upon the Hill immediately above. Here are digged up great Foundation Stones, and some remainders of the Ditches that fortified the House, are to be seen to this day. What Grahame was Master of this Place, none here about can give satisfactory Information. Only by comparing Records & Histories I find especially by some parcels of the Douglass History, that William Lord of Lidesdale, commonly called the Flower of Chevalry, was married to Margaret Grahame daughter to Sir John Grahame of Abercorn by whom he got the lands of Dalkeith, Newlands, Kilbucho &c and after the murder of the said Lord of Lidesdale by the Earle of Douglass; these Lands of Dalkeith, Newlands & Kilbucho fell into Sir James Douglass of Loudon, who had espoused Mary only daughter to William Lord of Lidesdale, who were the first of the name of Douglass that had interest in this Countrey. This is likewise the House, where Alexander Stewart Lord of Bonckle, and the valiant Randolph, afterwards Earle of Murray and Governour of Scotland, were taken Prisoners, and conquered to Robert Bruce's side by good Sir James Douglass.

Over against the Newlands is Kirkland, Boreland and Cowthropole now called Callins. And further down upon the mouth of a Burn called Glen Yla, is Flemington Mill, and upon the head of this Burn, is Fingland and Courop, and on the southside of the Hill, stands Hairhope belonging to James Chisholm Commissar Depute of Peebles. We come next to the Stevinston, which hath been long in the name of Brown, and over against it, the Castle of the Drochell a great bulk of a House, five large stories high, the one half without a roof  
 162. and unfinished, of a square form, six score ells in compass: the Hall above 50 foot of length; and the Kitchin Chimney is of so vast a wideness, that the Tenant of the place, will some-

times stack up 100 threaves of Corn into it, & room for much more. It was founded by James E. of Morton Regent anno 1578 with his Name & the Fetter-Lock on the front. But this misfortune of this eminent Man, put a period to this great Work and his Life, he being beheaded at Edinburgh, a short time after in the Year of God 1581. It belongeth now to the Earle of Tweddale. We come next to the Howburn, then to a Boscage of pleasant dwarf Birches, called the Scrog Wood; then Scroggs, Hamilton, Wester Hallprew, the Church and Town of Line. Near this Church upon a large plain above the Water, is to be seen the remainders of a great fortification, called to this day by the Countrey people Randalls Trenches. The Work is of Earth, of a round form, large 700 ells in circuit with three large and deep Trenches with their Ram and a spacious Plain within, which is likely to have been a Roman Camp. Here are two large Entries, and from the one there is a laid Causey the length of half a mile to the Town of Lyne and some appearance of Drawbridges. Some alledge that this was the place where Randolph was taken, upon the account of the Name given them by the Vulgar. But there is no appearance of any House here fit for the reception of such persons & the Camp itself seems to be of far greater antiquity then Randolphs days. However it is certain by the Author of Bruce's Book and the History of Douglass, that Randolph and his Company were surprised and taken after a little skirmish upon the Water of Lyne but it is most probable, that Newlands and not this was the place. And so we put an end to Lyne at the Mill and Bridge.

The Water of Tairth next to be described, hath its beginning at a place in the Parish of Linton, called the Threip Moss sike and runs about 5 miles southeast before it fall into Lyne a litle below the Drochell Castle. Upon it stand first <sup>163.</sup> the new Mill of Dolphinton, Blyth and Knockknows and here it receives the Mountburn, whereabout stand Langlandhill, Stirkfeild, Moorburn of Skirline, the Mount, Lochurd, Netherurd, Bryland & Harestaines. Further down on Tairth is Scotstoun, Kirkurd belonging to the Chief of the Name of Geddes, the Hophead, Ladyurd and Frostholl.

The Water of Meddin rises likewise from the Mountain of



Craigingar, and runs three miles into Tweddale, untill it come near the Garefoot, where the one half keeps the old Current towards the West, & runs into Clide at Dunbarton; the other half is brought off Artificially with a long Dam to the East Mill of Dolphingtoun, and from thence descends by Ingerston into the Water of Tairth, & with Tairth to Tweed at Berwick: and this is talked of amongst the Vulgar as a thing very remarkable. Hereabout stand Meddinhead, Garrelfoot, & Ingerston. In the Rocks of this solitary Water, grows plentifully the *Chamaenerion Gesneri*, taller and fairer then in any Garden, which I beheld in the flower with a deal of pleasure. It grows also in the Ern Craig in the Parish of Pennicook. Here is likewise *Vaccinia rubra Buxifoliis* so large that it appears like the true Boxwood at a distance.

The Water of Manner is next to Tweed and Lyne of most Note in this Countrey. It descends from a Hill called Mannerhead, and runs with a strong & stony current of eight miles to the Northeast. Upon it are first the House of Mannerhead, Dollarburn, Kirkhop, Langhaugh, Posso belonging to James Nasmith Chief of the Name and Falconer Royal. Next is Glenrath, Mannerhall, the Castlehill, the town of Manner, Hundelshope, Woodhouse, the Glack, Hallyards, Caverhill which belonged to the Chief of the Name of Paterson, Haswell Sykes, Barnes belonging to W<sup>m</sup> Burnet and hath been long in that Name. Of this Family was descended Alexander the late Archbishop of St. Andrews. And here Manner ends into Tweed at the Old Bridge.

164. The Water of Atlestone begins at a place called Kingsyde, in the old Papers Peebles Water head, and runs about seven miles southward dividing the Old and New Town of Peebles, and there falls into Tweed above the Bridge. Here stands the Over and Nether Fala, Fala Mill, the places called the East and West Loch, the Shiplaw, the Northsheill, Skitrig, Boreland, Harkhouse, Langcoat, Mansland, Burnhead, Haptoun, the Church and Town of Atlestone, the old House and Park of Dernhall, the Residence of the Lairds of Blackbarony repaired by Sir Archibald Murray Knight and Baronet, who lineally descending from a Race of powerfull Ancestors of that Name, does now heritably represent that honourable Family.

Of this stock are sprung several noble and flourishing Branches, particularly the Daughters of this House, have been generally fortunate in their Marriages by contributing to the honour of the Family a noble and numerous Alliance. The Park here is an Ornament to the House, being well stored with Forrest trees in a place where there are so few. Leaving the Dernhall We meet next with Over and Nether Stewartoun, Hatton, and Hattonknow, Wormiston Pretschill, (here grows the *Meum* like feilds of young Broom) Crigilty, Milkiston, Windylawes, Over and Nether Kidston, Winkston, here is store of young Planting, Maillinsland, Fullage, Hathpole, Sheilgreen, Hutchinfeild, Clappelhill, and the old Castle of Smithfeild.

Bigger Water hath its rise from the Black Well lass a mile & a half to the North of Bigger & runneth about 5 miles in Tweddale before it enter Tweed. The first House upon this Water, after it enters Tweddale is Threipland, then Harttree Mains, Harttree House, the Mill, Howslack, Goseland, Knock, Back of the Knock, Wintermoor, Candie, Skirline Mains; the Church, Town and House of Skirline a pleasant and fruitfull place. It was an old and honourable Family of the Name of Cockburn, in a short time since, it hath changed many <sup>165.</sup> Masters, and belongs now to Collonell James Douglass Brother to the Lord Treasurer of Scotland. Here is a Fair yearly. The Cleuch, Kirklawhill, the Church of Killbucho, Burnetland, the Town of Kilbucho, long a Pendicle of Dalkeith, but erected into a Burgh of Regality by John Dickson of Harttree one of the Senatours of the Colledge of Justice, whose Posterity possess this place & Harttree for the time. Near Kilbucho Church upon the Burn stand Mitchellhill, Blandevin and the Raw and following the Water, Kilbucho Mains & Callait, and here Bigger Water, receives into it Broughton Burn, which descends from a place called the Piked Stone, and runs some more then three miles before it joyn with Bigger Water. Upon this Burn stand Broughton Shiells, Claverhill, the Church and Town of Broughton, where is a Fair yearly, Broughton Mains, Broughtonhall, the Dwelling house of Sir W<sup>m</sup> Murray of Stenhope Knight & Baronet. The Heires of this Family since their rise, have

been very honourably matched, Sir David Murray having married a daughter of the Earle of Wigton, Sir W<sup>m</sup> Murray his son a daughter of the Earle of Annandale, and the present Heir, a daughter of the Earle of Kincarden. The Horse of the Tweddale Militia joyned with those of Linlithgow shire into a Troup is commanded by Stenhope younger. A little below this, Bigger Water receiveth Broughton Burn, and both run into Tweed a little below the Moorburn over against the Town of Drumelzear.

Holms Water hath its spring from a place called the Nick of Holms head, and runs about six miles towards the East, and then mixes with Bigger Water about half a mile before it joyn with Tweed. Here stand first Glenlude, then Glenkirk an old Family of the Name of Porteous, Chappelgill, Glenkotho, Glenhighton, Cardonn belonging to William Murray a Cadet of the house of Stenhope, Caldshoulders, Quarter, Smelhop, Burnbrae, the Church & Kirkhouse of Glenholm, Holms Mill, the Wrae, the Slack, Heuchbrae, Kootlehall, an old Towerhouse belonging to Geddes of Kirkurd, the Rachan, Whitsleid the Dwelling house of John Dickson grandchild to the Lord Harttree. Upon the head of this fertile Water, above Glenkirk is a mountain called Fiendsfell before mentioned, the Eagle hath nestled past memory of man. The nest is builded upon a dreadfull Rock, where are to be seen good store of wild Fowl, and Lambs in their season, to which this creature is very terrible. The Countrey people calls it the Ern, but it is undoubtedly the Chrysactos being full as large as a Turkey, and will snatch up a lamb of six weeks old.

Meggitt Water belonging unto the Parish of Lyne, though they be near a dozen of miles disjoyned, descends from the head of old Talo, and runneth six miles before it meet with St. Mary Loch. Upon it stand the Crammart on a place called the Hunters Hill, the Craigrig, Siert, Shielhop and Henderland once a great and old Family of the name of Cockburn. Upon the stony Banks of this Water, grows the *Cochleria rotundi folia*; The tradition is that here were great store of red Deer, and that the Lord Darnly built the House called the Crammart, upon the Hunters hill, for his sport,

and there is a place called the Queens Chair to this day. There is not one to be seen now, however that they have been in this place, I am perswaded, in that there are many of their horns to be seen in the Countrey peoples houses to this day.

Upon the head of the River of Tweed stands first Tweed-hopefoot, and here Tweed receives the Cor Water, whereon stands Earlshaugh, and further down, it receives Frood & Talo Waters.

Frood ariseth from Hartfeild Hill, is four miles of length and hath upon it Frood. Cartrop, then Hawkshaw a very old family belonging to the Chief of the Name of Porteous. This Estate, when entire, would have been 3000 merks yearly: and yet in all the bounds or within 3 miles of the House, there was never any sort of Corn sown to this hour.

Talo Water will be about                      miles of length and hath <sup>167</sup>. upon it Talo.

So following the course of Tweed we meet with Badlieu and Glenbreck, both in Tweedmoor; where there are Fallow Deer to this day: I myself have seen half a dozen together: They have been here in far greater plenty but the Fawns are by degrees kill'd and destroyed by the Herds, against which the Earle of Tweddale issued out a severe Act in his Court some few years ago. We come next to Cockieland, the Beild, Oliver Castle, whereof there is nothing now to be seen but the place where it stood. It was the old Residence of the Frissels, but now it is the first Title of the E. of Tweddale, here being designed first in the Roll of the Shire Lord Oliver Castle. Follows Tweedmoor Church, Powmood a very old Family, which pretends to be Cheif of the Name of Hunter, the Logan

Stenhope the old House of Drumelzear, situate upon a little Mount almost environed with the River and appears a Peninsula, and here Tweed begins to run with some pleasure, Next is the Town and Church of Drumelzear, and here is the remarkable place where the Prophet Merlin is said to have been buried at a Sauch bush near a Burn called Powsayl. Where the Churchyard stood of old. The Tradition is that he walked long up and down this part of Tweed, and many strange stories are reported of him



by the Vulgar but the old Prophecy following is most memorable.

When Tweed and Pawsayl meet at Merlin's Grave,  
Scotland and England shall one Monarch have.

Which accordingly fell out: for the same day Queen Elizabeth dyed the River of Tweed did so extraordinarily overflow its accustomed bounds that it meet with the Burn Powsayl at Merlin's Burial place, the like whereof had never been seen before, nor observed since. A little above the Church, upon  
168. a steep and craiggy Hil, is to be seen the Ruines of the Tennis Castle the old strength and fortalice of the Twedies of Drumelzear once a family of great power and pride, but now decayed Root and Branches. The House was blown up with powder by the Lord Fleeming whose Father Drumelzar had slain in a bloody Feud that continued betwixt the Families. Some of the Rounds & Turrets of this strong little Castle, are yet to be seen, and huge lumps of disjoynted Walls. This Tweddie of Drumelzear had great interest & following in this Countrey, especially about the River of Tweed as his surname imports.

A further DESCRIPTION of the several PARISHES within the  
PRESBYTERY of PEEBLES and how they are bounded.

Lintoun Parish lyes upon the head of the Water of Lyne and is the most northern place of Tweddale. It marches with Caldermoor, the head of North Esk and the Parish of Pennicook to the North and North East; with Dunsyre & Dolphingtoun in Clidesdale to the West, & with the Newlands and some part of Kirkurd Parish to the South & East. It is watered with Pollintorff, but mainly with the Water of Lyne, which runs directly through the middle of the Parish to that of Newlands.

The Newlands Parish lyes to the southeast of Lintoun and is bounded with Kirkurd on the southwest, with Lyne and Athelstoun to the south & east; and with the Parish of Pennycook towards the North. It lyes upon the Water of Lyne.

The Parish of Kirkurd is bounded with Broughtoun to the south west, with Skirline & Dolphintoun to the West & Northwest, with Lyntoun, Newlands & Lyne to the Northeast and with Stobo to the south. It lyes upon the Water of Tairth.

The Parish of Lyne is bounded with Newlands to the North ; with Stobo & Kirkurd to the south & west, with Athelstoun & Peebles to the East. Its main Water is Line.

The Parish of Peebels borders with the Parishes of Lyne,<sup>169.</sup> Manner, Athelstoun and Innerleithan. It lyes upon Tweed River.

The Parish of Athelstoun is bounded on the North with the Parishes of Pennicook and Temple in MidLothian, Innerleithan upon the East, with Newlands, Lyne and Peebles on the West and South. It lyes upon the Water of Athelstoun.

The Parish of Innerleithan lyes furthest East of any Parish in Tweddale, and borders with Athelstoun, Peebles, Traquair, and with the Parishes of Galascheills in the Forrest and Temple in MidLothian. It lyes upon Leithan Water.

The Parish of Traquair lyes furthest south of any Parish in Tweddale. It is bounded on the North and East with the Parishes of Innerleithan and Yaro, upon the South with the Parish of Yaro, in the Southwest and West, with Meggat and the Parish of Manner. It lyes upon the Waters of Tweed and Quair.

The Parish of Manner is bounded upon the East with the Parish of Peebles, upon the North and West with the Parishes of Stobo, Dawick, and Drumelzear and upon the south Traquair & Meggat. It lyes upon the Water of Manner.

The Parish of Dawick is bounded with the River of Tweed and the Parish of Stobo to the North, with the Parish of Manner on the East ; with Drumelzear and Broughtoun on the West and South. It lyes upon the River of Tweed.

The Parish of Drumelzear is bounded with the Parishes of Dawick and Stobo as is expressed, and with the Parishes of Tweedmoor and Glenholm to the South, Southwest, and West. It lyes also upon Tweed.

The Parish of Stobo borders with the Parishes of Lyne, Kirkurd, Dawick, Drumelzear as said is, and the Parish of

Broughtoun to the West. It is watered with the River of Tweed.

The Parish of Broughtoun is bounded on the Northeast with the Parishes of Kirkurd and Stobo, and the Parish of Glenholm to the south & West. It lyes upon Bigger Water.

170. The Parish of Glenholm is bounded with Stobo, Kilbucho, Broughton and Drumelzear upon the North and East, with Tweedmoor to the South, and with the Parish of Coulter in Clidesdale to the West. It lyes upon the Water of Holm.

The Parish of Tweedmoor is bounded with the Parishes of Drumelzear and Glenholm on the east and North with Meggathhead & the Parish of Moffat in Annandale on the south, and with the Parish of Coulter in Clidesdale on the Northwest. It lyes upon the River of Tweed.

The Parish of Kilbucho is bounded with the Parishes of Broughtoun and Glenholm to the Northeast and South, and with the Parish of Biggar in Clidesdale on the West. It lyes upon Biggar Water.

The Parish of Skirline is bounded with the Parishes of Dolphingtoun in Clidesdale, Kirkurd and Broughtoun on the Northeast & south and with Biggar & Walstoun in Clidesdale to the West & Northwest.

#### INFORMATION concerning TEVIOTDALE otherwise called the SHIRE of ROXBURGH.

The Shire of Teviotdale is one of the three bordering shires which frontiers England. The length of it is from Reddinburn on the east to Annandale on the West, which will be about 30 miles, comprehending Lidesdale, Eusdale, and Eskdale. The breadth of it will be from the Border to the Blew Cairn in Lauder moor about 14 or 15 miles.

This Shire receives its denomination either from the River of Teviot, or from the ancient Burgh thereof called Roxburgh which lay at the mouth of Teviot where it runs into Tweed, upon the head of the which town, stood that strong and great Castle, which was one of the chief Castles that belonged to the King of Scotland. It was situate betwixt Teviot &  
171. Tweed and had vaults under ground that went to both

these Rivers and Bridges over both. It was of old called the Castle of Marchmonth, as Stirlin Castle was called Wester Snodown, whence two of our Heraulds receive their denomination, to this day being called Marchmonth & Snodoun Heralds. It was afterward called from the Town, the Castle of Roxburgh. It was taken & garison'd by the English in the dayes of K. James the Second and retaken by the Scots, at which Siege, that noble Prince was killed by the splinter of a Cannon. The place is yet called the Kings Haugh where he died, upon which disaster the Castle was demolished, the Bridge cut, and the Town ruinated, and the Royalty thereof transmitted to the Town of Jedward, which was an Abbey and was then erected to be the Chief Burgh Royal of the Shire, and was thereafter called Jedburgh, & has remained ever since a very loyal Town, and given testimonies thereof upon all occasions.

As for the nature of the Countrey, it is extraordinary well mixed both for Grass and Corn, and a very fine soil, and watered with abundance of little Rivulets besides Teviot and Tweed. As for the names of them, they are in every Mapp, and the surveyer will take up the distances and the way of their lying & disgorging themselves into Teviot. The Valley grounds abound with Corn, & the high grounds are furnished with excellent Grass and produce great store of Cattell, of all kinds, and of the best brood in Scotland both for largeness and goodness. And for the Grain, it is short of few Shiress in Scotland; and it has been known by the Custom Bills that they have transported to Newcastle above 10,000 load of Corn in the year, besides what was consumed within the Countrey and carried to Lothian.

There was abundance of Woods here, which are now <sup>172.</sup>altogether cut down and decayed for want of haining. There is no place named by any Forrest within this Shire, except Jedward Forrest, belonging to the Marquess of Douglass.

As for Parks, there is but few of old, except Branksholm which is Buccleuch's Chief House and Helliden which belongs to Roxburgh & Fairnihurst Park which belongs to the Lord Jedburgh and the Park of Ancram. There are diverse inclosures made for accommodation about severall Houses, which scarcely deserve the name of Parks.



There is abundance both of freestone and Limestone, but want of Coal, although there be great probability for it.

As for ancient Monuments, there are but few, except Abbacies, Monasteries, and other Religious Houses. Whereof there are more here then in any other Shire in Scotland: for there are four Abbacies not above six or eight miles distant from other viz. Jedburgh, Melross, Dryburgh & Kelso. And although Dryburgh now stands within the Shire of Berwick, it was of old within the bounds of Teviotdale. And besides these great Abbacies there were three Convents of Friers; one of Dominicans at Jedburgh whereof the Lairds of Fairnihiirst were Patrons, another of Franciscans, at old Roxburgh; and the third of Red Friers at Nether Ancram. Besides these there was a grand Hospitall called Maison de Dieu, which stands upon the south side of Teviot a little above Roxburgh. There is another Hospital for Lepers at the mouth of the Water of Rule called Rule Hospital; & an Hospital beside Ancram. The Abbacies, Convents & Hospital Lands take up a great part of this Shire.

As for the Secular Lands, they were divided amongst the great men of the Kingdom, so that this Shire was singular: for it never had any Provincial Lord or Earle, as other places  
 173. had such as the three Lothians and Mers, which were under the Government & Jurisdiction of the Earle of March; & the other Shires of Scotland gave Titles of Honour to their Provincial Lords or Earles thereof; as appears by the several Writs and Charters of Lands. For the Barony of Cavers Douglass did belong to the Marrs Earles of Marr; which Barony fell into the Douglasses; when Lady Isabell Douglass became Heiress of that Earldom & became the Provision of a Branch of that Family who have been Sherifs of this Shire for a long time till of late. The Barony of Hawick belonged to the Earles of Buchan; the lands of Hassinden & Hassindenbank belonged to the Earles of Kincardin; the Barony of Minto to the Earles of Lennox, the lands of Whitslade and Nisbets to the Lord Erskine, the lands of Eckfoord and Caverton to the Earles of Orkney-Sinclair; the lands of Lintoun to the Lord Somervale; the lands of Plenderleith to the Lord Saltoun; the lands of Loch Tower to the Hepburns

Earles of Bothwell ; the lands of Oxenham to the Lord Colvill ; the lands of Cesfoord to the Lord Oliphant and so forth. Which has been done to engage them to defend the border.

The Gentries Lands were for the most part Parts & Pendicles of thir Baronies, and so of old held of these great Lords untill some of these Lords were forfeited, or otherwise extinguished whereupon diverse Gentlemen got their lands erected into Baronies, and most of these alterations were in the days of K. Robert the first.

There are some Vestiges of the Roman Incampings, and a street that goes from the Border viz. from Hownam to Tweed called the Roman Causey, commonly called by the vulgar the rugged Causey.

As for any Battels or memorable Actions, there have been several here, betwixt the Scots & English, in defence of the border which were so many that it is too large here to insert them, the most considerable whereof you will find in History. 174.

As for the Government & Customes of the Countrey, they had a Sheriff as other Shires had : but his Power was much eclipsed by an Office and Jurisdiction, which was here called the Warden Office, who was a Person of great Command and Power, being the King's Lieutenant and in time of War, exercised Martial Law ; and the Sheriff & all the Shire of whatsoever Quality were bound to attend him & to be answerable to his Court. He might have garisoned any mans House he thought fit in defence of the Countrey. He with the consent of the Freeholders of his Wardenry made several Laws for the Government of the Border ; and some Crimes he made Treason, which was not Treason by the Common Law. He was the Kings Chief Justice in Criminals within his Jurisdiction, and had all the Escheats and Confiscations of Delinquents. The Scots and English Wardens had upon the Border their moneth Meetings which were called their days of Truce ; to redress Disorders ; and the two Wardens made Laws joyntly for the Government of the Border, whereby the Border Laws differ from all the Laws both of Scotland and England.

The Borders of Scotland were divided into three Wardenries but England only into two. The three Wardenries of Scotland were first the Shiriffdom of Berwick, which was called the

East Ward ; the Middle Ward, which contains Teviotdale ; and the Wester Ward, which containeth Nidesdale and Annandale. As for the Middle Ward, the E. of Roxburgh's Predecessours and the Lord Jedburgh have kept it these 200 years, untill it was extinguished by K. James his being King of England, and neither Buccleuch nor any other Family that lived in Teviotdale were Wardens, but them. Of the East  
 175. Ward the Lord Hume was always Warden since the decay of the Earles of Douglass. The Lords of Maxwell have been Wardens of the Wester Ward, upon whose ruins the Maxwells rose, and sometimes the Lairds of Johnston were Wardens.

As for the humors of the people, they were both strong and warlike, as being inured to War, and daily Incursions : and the most part of the Heritours of the Countrey gave out all their Lands to their Tenants for Military attendance upon Rentals and reserved only some few manes for their own sustenance, which were laboured by their Tenants besides their Service. They payed an entry, a Herauld and a smal rental duty : for there were no Rents raised here that were considerable till King James went into England, yea along all the Border.

There is no free Burgh in all this Countrey but the Burgh of Jedburgh, though several Burghs of Barony. As for Regalities & Burghs thereof, there are only three in this Shire viz. the Regality of Jedward Forrest, the Regality of Hawick, and the Regality of Melross.

There is no Stewartry or Baillery here : the Church lands had of old Jus Regale, and they made the men of power within the shire their Baillies, so that the Lairds of Buccleuch were Baillies to the Abbots of Melross, the Lairds of Fairnirhist, now Lords Jedburgh, were Baillies to the Abbots of Jedburgh, the Lairds of Cesfoord, now Earles of Roxburgh were Baillies to the Abbots of Kelso, and the Lords of Hume were Baillies to the Abbots of Dryburgh.

As for ancient seats of noble Families, here are none, for they had their seats elsewhere.

Some Families here attained to the honour of Peerage in the days of K. James the 6<sup>th</sup>, who did nobilitate the Lairds of  
 176. Cesfoord, Fairnirhist and Buccleuch ; Cesfoord to the Title of

Lord Roxburgh being the ancient chief Town, and Fairniirst to the Title of Lord Jedburgh being the present chief Town of the Shire whereof they have been always Provests, and Buccleuch kept his old Title. And for the consideration of their Advancement, it is not to be doubted; for they and their Predecessors have stoutly defended the Border and lost their lives in defence of their King and Kingdom. Besides of late Sir Thomas Ker of Fairniirst, who was both Warden of the Midle March and Provest of Jedburgh father to Andrew Lord Jeburgh did suffer banishment and forfeiture fourteen years for maintaining the Rights of the Crown in the days of Q. Mary. As for the Lord Ancram his family his Predecessour was a Brother of Fairniirst: And Sir Robert Ker of Ancram, who was a gentleman of the Bed-Chamber to K. Charles the first, was advanced for his service done to that King at his Coronation, to the dignity of Earle of Ancram. As for the Lord Cranstoun's Family, which is ancient, I doubt not but it will be mentioned among the families in Lothian, because his Residence and Seat was there. He was advanced by K. James 6 to the Dignity of a Lord Baron for his good service done in the border, when he was Lieutenant to the E. of Dumbar, who was made Captain of the Guard, when K. James went to England, which Guard was erected at that time, when the Warden Office ceased. And the last Captain of the Guard was Andrew Master of Jedburgh, which Office called the Blew Benders, died with him in anno 1628 and was never again revived till the Restauration of King Charls the Second.

As for the Gentry there are several ancient Families here, as you will find in most places of Scotland, which were needless and too long here to mention, seeing you have the help of My Lord Advocate's Book which deduces the Genealogies of the families of the whole Kingdom, that are worth the noticing.

As for the Commands of the Militia, they are various and 177. change often. You will get them from the Clerks of the Council, as their printed Acts bear.

Relation by Doctor Cranstoun.

The Lord Cranstoun is Coroner of this Shire of Roxburgh, since K. James the Sixth, and guards the Criminal Courts



there. His servants keep the Bar, for which he hath so much of every Pannel, and so much of each confiscate.

There were of the Name of Cranston in the Mers, Corsby, Glen, Boll, Moriston, Mains, Harlaw; and in Lothian Cranstoun of that Ilk; and Skeitsbush in East Lothian, in the Mers, Birken-side or Cranston lands.

The considerable Gentry in Teviotdale on the east part are Stitchell Pringle, Newton Don, Ednam Edminston, Greenhead Ker, Chatto Ker, Frogton Ker, Maccairston M<sup>c</sup>Dougal, Merton Sir Wm Scot, Raeburn Scot, Littledean Ker, Fairniten Rutherfoord, Ancram Scot, E. Roxburgh Ker, L. Jedburgh Ker, E. Lothian Ker, L. Rutherfoord of that Ilk; On the west end E. of Tarres Scot, Grubbet Bennet, Stobs Eliot near Hawick, Cavers Douglass, Cavers Ker, Laird Riddle of that Ilk, BonJedward Douglass, Mangerton Scot, Govenberry Scot, Edgerton Rutherfoord, Minto W. Riddle, Cherrytrees Ker, Newton Ker, Lord Cranston in Crailing, Marquess of Douglass Jedward Forrest, Thirlstone Scot, Sinton Scot, Clifton Pringle, Whitsleid Scot, Gladstanes of that Ilk, Langlands of that Ilk, Eachaw Scot, Rynoldburn Scot, Morislaw Halyburton, Ellisheuch, Oslahill Scot, Chesters Bennet, Abbotrule Ker, Hadden Murray, Woolie Eliot, Lariston Eliot, Gaudilands Scot, Well Scot, Langshaw Scot, Hilslope Cairncorse Buckholm Pringle.

178. OLD INSCRIPTION upon the lintel of a door in the ABBACY of MELROSS which I got read some 7 years ago by the help of an old Schoolmaster.

John Murrow sometime callit was I  
 And born in Parish certainly  
 And had the chairge of the Maison Wark  
 Of Melross and of Glasgow kirk  
 Of Niddisdale and Galloway  
 Of Paisly and of Orkney too.  
 I pray to God and Mary baith  
 To keep us all frae shame and Skaith.

I observed in many places betwixt Selkirk and Melross that the Countrey-people foddered their Cattell in the night time

with the Petasites which is here in great abundance. The Cattel eat it willingly and with good success.

### DESCRIPTION of the SHERIFFDOM of SELKIRK or ETRICK FOREST.

The Sheriffdom of Selkirk or Etrick Forrest is bounded on the North pairtly by Tweddale toward the West end of it and pairtly by the Regality of the Stow, which is within the Jurisdiction of MidLothian; on the East and South it is bounded by Teviotdale, and on the West partly by Teviotdale & partly by Annandale.

The Diameter of the Shire is about sixteen miles every way, for the body of the Shire is very nigh quadrangular, except some few parts which run farther out, and are within the neighbouring shires. As toward the South West, Philiphauch runneth in within the Shire of Teviotdale and toward the North West, Fallenburn betwix Quair and Tweed and Birks a little distance southward from it, run in within the Shire of Tweddale and are in regard of their situation disjoyned from the body of the Shire of Selkirk.

This Shire is watered with several Rivers abounding with variety of Fishes.

On the Northeast part it is watered with the River Tweed <sup>179.</sup> which River hath its rise and springs from exceeding high Mountains dividing Tweddale, Clidesdale and Annandale, out of which flow these three great Rivers Tweed, Clide and Annand. Tweed running eastward dischargeth itself into the east sea at Berwick; Clide running westward dischargeth itself into the West sea at Dumbarton; and Annand running southward, dischargeth itself into an Arm of the sea near Sulway-Sands not far from Carlisle. These Mountains, whence these three Rivers spring are so high, that from the top of them, both the East Sea Bank and the West Sea Bank are discernable. This River of Tweed having its rise as said is, running with a swift stream through the Shire of Tweddale, to which it giveth its name, and passing by the Burgh of Peebles and by Traquair, it entereth the Shire of Selkirk or Etrick Forrest a little above the Elibank, and from

thence it is well busked with Woods on both sides of the River, untill it hath run through this Shire & entered Teviotdale a mile above the Town and Abbey of Melross.

And though the Countrey be Mountanous, yet about the River it is well replenished with commodious Villages & considerable Gentlemens dwelling houses. On the southside it hath Shutinglies a mile above the place of Traquair to the Southwest; Plora, Scrogbank near to Elibank westward, Elibank a dwelling house of the Lord Elibank, Eshisteill, a Gentlemans Dwelling. Williamhope a mile south from Ashisteill, the Peill, the Yair a comely House & ane Gentleman's Dwelling Sunderlandhall a Gentlemans Dwelling.

About the Elibank, this Shire extendeth itself over the River and over a large tract of green Hills northward unto the Water of Gala comprehending betwixt that Water and the River Tweed many Villages and Gentlemens Houses; as Holilie, Thornilie, Whitebank a Gentlemans Dwelling; Black-  
180. hauch, Cadenlie, Fairnilie a Gentlemans Dwelling, the Rink, Boleside, Torwoodlie a large House and Gentlemans Dwelling, Megillpots half a mile west from Blindlie, Galasheills a Gentlemans House with a pleasant little Town having a weekly mercat and several Fairs in the year. Mosilie, Stockbridge, Nether barns where the confluence of Gala and Tweed terminates, the farthest east point of the Shire.

The next Waters are Yaro and Etrick, both which have ther rise out of the hills that divide Annandale from the Sherifdom of Selkirk and they run like two parallel lines, still keeping three miles distance one from another, untill they joyn about a mile to the West of Selkirk; and thence running in one stream they mingle themselves about two miles to the east of Selkirk with the River Tweed. Both these Waters, especially above their confluence, are richly furnished with plenty of pleasant Woods, and several Villages & Gentlemens Dwellings.

The Water of Yaro running with a small stream for the space of two or three miles, entereth one of these Lochs called St Mary Lochs, and from thence runneth into the other Loch by a little narrow stream not being 50 paces long: for no farther are these two Lochs distant one from another: The

circumference of the two Lochs will be above six or seven miles. They abound with diverse kinds of fishes as Trouts, Eels, Pearches & Pikes of a greater then are to be found elsewhere, some of them being five or six quarters in length. There is also taken in thir Lochs a little Fish called by the Countrey people Red waimbs. It is about the bigness of an Herring, and the belly of it wholly red. It is only to be found about Michaelmass and that only in the little stream that runneth betwixt the two Lochs but not seen at any other time or in any other part of the Lochs. Yet at that season the Countrey people with Plaids sewed together like a net have take such store of them, that they carried them home & 181. salted them up in Vessels for the food of their families. These two Lochs having received the Water of Yaro, by a little small stream toward the West, dismiss it again toward the East, with a much larger stream, by reason of the accession of the Water of Meggat, that runneth into the eastmost of these Lochs.

This Water being past the Lochs, hath on either side many Villages and Gentlemens Houses. On the left hand towards the North, it hath Kirkstead half a mile distant from the Nether Loch northward, where sometimes the Kirk of Yaro or St. Mary Kirk of the Lochs did stand though now it be transplanted five miles farther down the Water, Dryhope sometimes a Gentlemans Dwelling; Blackhouse and Douglass-Craig betwixt Blackhouse and the Water of Yaro standing upon Douglassburn, a place much haunted by the Earles of Douglass when they came to take sport in the Woods of this Forest; Montbernger, Catslack, Wheithope, Blackgrain a mile to the Northwest of Wheithope; Deuchar a Gentlemans House having a stone bridge over the Water of Yaro close by it; and the Kirk of Yaro a very little space higher on the Water of Tinneis; Lewingshope hard upon the East of Tinnies; Hangingshaw a dwelling house of the Lairds of Philiphauch, sometimes Heritable Sheriffs of the Forrest; Braidmeadows a Gentlemans House, Foulshells, Hairhead, beneath which about a mile, this Water of Yaro dischargeth itself into the Water of Etrick. And a little beneath the Confluence is Philiphauch. This place is famous for a Battel fought near to it in Sept 1645. Sunderland a long mile



beneath Philiphauch, beneath which Etrick and Yaro running in one stream enter Tweed.

This Water of Yaro hath on the right hand towards the south at the meeting of the two Lochs abovementioned and a little southward Corscleuch a mile south from Bourhope, Bourhope, Eltrive a mile southwest from Eldinghope, Easter and Wester Eldinghope, Sundhope a Gentleman's Dwelling, 182. Wester and Easter Kershopes, Fastheuch, Newark a strong Castle and sometimes a Dwelling of the Earles of Buccleuch which lyes higher and closer upon the Water then Bowhill, the said Bowhill a Gentleman's House.

The Water of Etrick having its rise, as is above specified, hath on the left hand northward Potburn, Braidgairhill, Kirkhope, Brokupridge Scableuch, Etrick kirk, Ramescleuch half a mile under the Kirk of Etrick, Thirlstane sometime the Dwelling of the Laids of Thirlstane. Tussilaw a Gentleman's Dwelling, Corslie betwixt Tussilaw and Newburgh, and Inchbonie, Newburgh sometime a Gentleman's Dwelling, Gilminscleuch a Gentleman's Dwelling, Singlie, Newhouse, Kirkhope sometimes a Dwelling of the Laids of Harden, about which is the largest Wood in all the Forrest, and near to which is a Stone Bridge over the Water of Etrick, Faldshope, Carterhauch betwixt Faldshope and the Confluence of Etrick and Yaro.

This Water of Etrick hath on the right hand southward Over and Nether Faups, Shorthope, Etrickhouse, Midshope a mile under Etrickhouse toward the southeast, Deephope standing on the East of the Water of Tima, near to the place, where it entereth into Etrick, Gemmelscleuch, Etrickside, Anelshope southward of which, above a mile stand Wester and Easter Buccleuchs, from which the Earles of Buccleuch have their Title, eastward from which standeth Bellanden about a mile to the northwest of Alemoor, which was the slogan of the name of Scot, Which was a custome when the Chief of the name, at general or public Meetings, would call his friends about him. Then near to the foot of Rankleburn, stands Cacrabank at a little distance from the Water of Etrick, then Wester and Easter Dalorrens, Hindhope, to the south of which ly Dodhead, and Redfordgreen. Then near to the

Water ly Nether Baillielie, and Helmburn; southward of which a mile from the Water ly the Schawes, and Over Baillielie half a mile to the East of the Schawes. Near to the Water a litle under the Bridge lyes Howfoord, Whittelbrae, Hottrolburn, Inner Huntlie, southward of which about two miles lyes Outer Huntlie, having the Fannes a little Westward from it. Then close upon the Water lyes Oakwood a Dwelling house of the Lairds of Harden weel garnished with <sup>183.</sup> large and pleasant Woods, then Easter Oakwood and the Myln, to the south of which ly Hartwoodmyres, and a mile eastward from it Middlestead, and at the Confluence of Etrick and Yaro, Houden, beneath which is the town of Selkirk a Burgh Royall, having a Weekly Mercat & many Fairs every year, being the Head-Burgh of the Shire, and the seat both of the Sheriff and Commissary Courts, a populous Town, with all sorts of Tradesmen, especially Cordiners. Near to the Southwest end of this Town, stands the Haining a Gentlemans Dwelling, having a large Loch hard by it, and severall Parks about it, where there is an excellent brood of Horses, Neat and Sheep. Southward of this is Hartwoodburn. A litle Burn called the Schawburn, lying a little to the East of Selkirk doth terminate the Shire on the Soutside of Etrick.

As for the other parts of this shire lying southward, they are scattered here and there upon the Water of Ale and the Water of Borthwick; several parts of Teviotdale interveening, and thereby wholly cut off from any contiguity with any other part of this Shire. The Water of Ale hath its rise from Alemoor Loch, a large Loch and well replenished with diverse sorts of fishes, having on the lefthand hard by the Loch the Steed or Village of Alemoor, under which stands Whitslaid a Gentleman's Dwelling commodiously situate, and a large Park by it. To the Northeast thereof lies Todridge a Gentleman's Dwelling pleasantly situate and Langhope half-a-mile to the Northwest of Todridge, a Gentleman's Dwelling. There is no more on the north side of the Water of Ale, that belongs to this Shire. Only upon the southside of the Water, three miles beneath Whitslaid stands the House of South Sintoun a Gentleman's Dwelling pleasantly situated, with a Village near unto it, called the Langtoun, under which toward

the Water is a Myln belonging to the Gentleman, and above it, a Place called the Parkhead. Thir lands belonging to Sintoun are so surrounded with Teviotdale, that they touch upon no part of the Forrest.

184. Upon the Water of Borthwick, which has its rise from Craikmoor, there are some few Steeds belonging to this Shire, not lying contiguous one with another, but interrupted here and there by parts of Teviotdale. Upon the Norside of this Water lyes Craik.

Howcleuch, Robertoun, And upon the Southside of this Water lyes Philip a mile from Horsecoats southward, the farthest southwest part of the Shire & wholly cut off from the rest by interveening parts of Teviotdale.

The people inhabiting this Shire are generally of strong and robust bodies, in regard the Countrey is Mountanous, and necessitates them to travel much in attendance of their Cattel, and their Diet sober and frugal. They are ingenious, and hate fraud & deceit; Theft or Robbery are not heard among them, and very rarely a Ly to be heard in any of their mouths, except among them of the baser sort. Their way of Living is more by pasture of Cattel then by tillage of the ground, though upon the Plains by the Waters there is a very great increase of Corn.

The Commodities this Shire affords, are great store of Butter and Cheese of the finest sort for tast and sweetness, inferiour to none that is to be found any where else, and that in such plenty, that many parts about it furnished by it. It affordeth also store of Neathides and sheep skins and great plenty of Wool, which is carried to forreign Nations, so that the cold eastern Countreys bless this happy soil being warmed with the fleeces of their sheep. It affordeth also store of Neat and Sheep, which are sold and carried partly to the Northern parts of Scotland, but most what into England, the Custom whereof at the Border, is no small increase to His Majesties Revenue. It affords also great plenty of well spun Worset, which is sold and carried for the most part unto forreign Nations.

This Shire was called the Forrest, because it was wholly covered with Woods, except the Tops of the Mountains which are covered with Heath which is very profitable for sheep both

for food, and shelter in the time of snows or stormy weather. The Woods were replenished with variety of wild Beasts, whither the Kings of Scotland frequently resorted for sport in <sup>185.</sup> hunting Harts, Hinds and Fallow Deer with other sorts of Wild Beasts. But the Woods being now decayed much, the Wild Beasts are for the most part, also destroyed. And though this whole Shire was almost covered with trees, as it had been one continued Wood, yet is it now for the most part denuded of that beautifull Covering, except it be the space of four or five miles upwards from the mouths and Confluence of the respective Rivers and Waters that run through it, which places remain yet well furnished with pleasant and profitable Woods, especially for building. The tops of the Mountains have good store of Moor Fowls, and in some places, the black Cock and gray Hen, which is a large and delicate kind of fowl.

Neither is this Shire judged to be destitute of Metals, for at Kershope foregainst the Kirk of Yaro, there is a little strand, which after a speat of rain, frequently casteth out many peices of lead, which are found by Countrey people among the sand.

There are also Mineral Waters here: for a little above Philiphauch there is a Well, which in regard to its smell, tast and operation in purging, and other effects, as colouring of money laid into it, differeth little or nothing from the Well, of Moffet in Annandale so much frequented.

#### MEMORANDUM.

To place Mincemoor a mile and a half to the southwest of Traquair.

Item that the Circumference of the Shire includes South Sintoun.

That the Bounds of the Shire from the North to the South is too much straitned.

### A DESCRIPTION of BERWICKSHIRE or the MERS.

186.

Berwickshire or the Mers is the Southeast Shire of Scotland



bordering with Berwick and Northumberland toward the sea coast; being divided from Berwick by the Bound-rod, from Northumberland by the River Tweed. Berwick and the Mers stand both on the Northside of Tweed, Northumberland on the South. Tweed divides the Mers and Northumberland about eight miles, and then upward to Redpeth Tweed divides betwixt Teviotdale, and the Mers about ten miles.

Tweed is one of those three Rivers that rise out of the same tract of Hills, one whereof to wit, Clide runs west towards Dumbarton, Annand South toward Sulway Sands, and the third Tweed toward Berwick. It is of a swift course, environed with hills, runs through Tweddale, Forrest and Teviotdale, is the March 'twixt England and Scotland. Before it goes to the Ocean, its Current is above 50 miles. It hath only at present two Bridges, one at Peebles of five arches, and another at Berwick of fifteen. It hath had one at Melross, the Pillars whereof yet stand, and another is intended to be built at Kelso.

It is called Berwickshire, because the Town of Berwick of old was the chief Burgh thereof, but given away thereafter by K. James the 3<sup>d</sup> upon Capitulation for relief of Alexander Duke of Albany his Brother, who was Prisoner in England. It is called Mers or March, because it divides the one Kingdom from the other, for the Stewartry of March is still in the Shire.

The Shire is divided in three parts, Lauderdale, Lammer-moor and Mers.

Lauderdale or the Forrest of Lauder, is a tract of ground lying on each side of the Water of Leider, abounding with pleasant Haughs, green Hills and some Woods, plentiful both of Pasturages and of Corns.

187. Lammer-moor is a great tract of hills abounding with moss and moor on the Northside of the shire above sixteen miles of length and six at least of breadth, the west end whereof belongs for the space of four miles to Lauderdale, the rest of it eastwards all most equally parted betwixt East Lothian and Mers, the march tending sometimes to the one shire, and sometimes to the other; a ground excellent for pasturage in the summer time, abounding with Moor fowls, Patridges,

Plovers green and gray, much frequented with the nobility and Gentry, who take pleasure in Hawking and setting Dogs. This tract of ground with some Towns and Parishes at the foot of these Hills, or amongst them are termed Lammer Moor frae Lammer law a high Mountain, the Victuals that grow there, being estimate yearly to a lower rate in the fiers of the year. This tract of Hills resembles a high Rampart cast up to defend the low fruitfull Valley ground of the Mers from the tempestuous storms & cold nipping blasts that come from the North.

The Mers is a pleasant lowlying ground plentiful with all kind of grain, and may be truly termed the garden of Scotland, lying deliciously upon the northside of the River, objected to the influence of the sun, whereby its naturally fertile soil is made to abound with Oats, Barley, Wheat, Pease, and all sorts of grain and fruits, with great abundance of hay, being guarded, as said is, from tempestuous storms, whereunto other shires are lyable, especially the Lothians.

This Shire might have been termed the Yorkshire of the Nation if the Division betwixt the two Kingdoms, before they were united under one Sovereign, and the frequent excursions and incursions occasioned thereby had not only hindered the Inhabitants from Policy and Planting the ornament of a Dwelling but necessitate them to choose rising grounds and to build thereon Vaults and Castles with dark Lights for strength and resistance rather than commodious and pleasant Dwellings <sup>188.</sup> and where they wanted these grounds to mantle about their Houses with Rampires and high Walls, which made them look rather like Prisons then Palaces. But this Defect is exceedingly helped by the spirit of building which has much abounded in these later times, as shall be shewed as we go along in the description.

This Shire is about twenty miles in length from Lambertoun to Redpath, on the southside, and from Cockburnspath to Seeing-hill Kirk on the Northside; and the breadth thereof is about fourteen miles frae Redpath to South Soutray burn on the West end, and from Lambertoun to Berwick Burn on the East end, and from Birdgame to Crainshawes in the middle of the Shire.

If Tradition be to be trusted, these four Parishes McKairstone, Smaleholm, Stitchell and Ednam on the north-side of Tweed lying in the bosom of the Mers, formerly pertained to Berwickshire, & were given off for defending the Castle of Roxburgh, which was the Chief Garison and Strength in these times before the Union of the Kingdoms for Mertoun lyes besouth Smaleholm and Nenthorn besouth Stitchell, which are still in the Mers.

From Redpath upon the Westhand the March of the Mers, excludng Lauderdale, goes up the eastside of Leider Water to Bownd Myln, which stands upon the Water of Bowndrich, where it enters into Leider; for Bowndtoun, Bownd Myln and Bowndrich are so called from bounding the Mers on the West hand as the Boundrode does on the East. And this Boundrich above this is called Boundupburn, or Bruntupburn, which rises on the Northside of the Flassedges, and divides the Merse from Lauderdale for the space of five miles. It is to be observed if Lauderdale should be secluded from the Mers, there should not be one Burgh within the whole Shire.

189. Lauderdale being included, the March on the Westside crosses Leider about half a mile above Earlestoun; for Lauder Parish which is the Westmost Parish of the Shire, lyes equally on both sides of the Water, bounding on the Westhand with Melross-land, which is a part of Teviotdale, and then with the Stow Parish, which is a part of MidLothian. Above the Parish of Lauder, is the Parish of Seeinghill Kirk, which marches both with the Stow Parish and Fala & thereafter the March goes in by Lammer law and through the middle of Lammer moor, till ye come to Berwick Burn, which runs besouth Dunglass into the Pees, and then into the Ocean, the Postmaster his House being the northmost House of the Shire.

The Judicatories in this Shire, are first the Sheriff Court, which sits at Duns. Secondly the Commissariot which sits at Lauder. thirdly the Baillerie of Lauder whereto four Parishes answer viz. Lauder, Seeinghill Kirk, Mertoun and Nenthorn. fourthly the Regality of Prestoun and Forrest of Dye belonging to the Marquess of Douglass, fifthly the Lordship of Coldinghame and Stewartry of March belonging to the Earle

of Hume ; besides a great number of Baron Courts with great privileges and extent.

The Religious Houses, which shews the pleasure and fertility of the Shire, are the Abbacy of Dryburgh, the Nunry of Eccles, the Priory of Caldstream, the Abbacy of Coldinghame, the Abbacy of St. Bothans & Strafountain.

This Shire contains three Presbyteries : Chirnside, Duns and Earlestoun.

In the Presbytery of Chirnside are these following Churches, Chirnside, Coldinghame, Aytoun, Mordingtoun, Fowlden, Huttoun, Hilltoun, Ladykirk, Lendell, Whitsome, Simperin, Swintoun, Edram and Eyemouth upon the Ocean.

Duns contains Duns, Langtoun, Polwart, Greenlaw, Eccles, Fogo, Abbay, Allumfoord, Langformacus, Crainshawes, and Prestoun.

Earlestoun contains these Churches. Earlestoun, Lidgertwood, Lauder, Seeinghill Kirk, Westruther, Gordon, Nenthorn, Smaleholme, which is in Teviotdale, Stow, which is in Mid-<sup>190</sup> Lothian & Mertoun.

Cockburnspath is in the Mers, but answers to the Presbytery of Dumbar.

In the time of Presbytery, Merss and Teviotdale made up one Synod, in the time of Episcopacy the Mers answers to the Diocese of Edr.

There be six considerable Waters, which run through this Shire. four whereof, to wit, Leider, Eden, Leit, and Whittiter Water run into Tweed ; Eye runs into the Ocean, and Blacater, (which runs lengthways through the middle of the Mers) runs into Whittiter some four miles before Whittiter run into Tweed. Besides these six in Langtoun water which runs into Blacater a mile be east Wedderburn.

In the Description of the shire shall be shewed what Parishes ly on each Water, where each Water hath its rise, and what Parishes are interjected betwixt the Waters, what Hills and Woods and Lochs are in the same, and what other considerable Rivulets run either to Tweed or the Ocean, and what number of Mylns stand upon each Water and what Town have Fairs and Mercats.

The first Water is Leider, which runs mostly from North to



South, hath its rise from several heads. First from Langmoor moss, a burn descends by Threeburnfoord and Hartside and another from the Windygowle by Over Hartside, a third from Seeing-hill-Cross by Greengelt, and a fourth from Kelphupe by Carfrae, with several others, which augment Leider, as upon the northside, Whelplaw Water, Egerhope Water, Bowndrich, Lidgertwood Water, and Earlestoun Water upon the other side Lauder Burn.

Upon Leider Water twenty Mylns.

The first Parish is Seeing-hill Kirk, which has its name from Seeinghill Cross, which is so called because Bonfires, which were appointed by Acts of Parliament recorded in Regiam Majestatem, when there were any Incursions in the Kingdom were to be seen, not only be the West end of the Mers and Teviotdale to the borders, but by the Lothians 191. Stirlingshire, Perthshire and Fife.

There are in this Parish of Considerable Houses, Hartside, Collilaw, Over and Nether Howdown, Ogestoun, Carfrae with the Barony thereof.

Four miles beneath this is the Burgh and Parish of Lauder which is the only Burgh of the Shire, more ancient than opulent, because lying on the outcorner of the Shire, having the Priviledge of the Commissariot Court by Act of Parliament, so that all the Testaments in the whole Shire are confirmed there. It hath several considerable Fairs granted to it of old & of late viz. St. Barnabies day, and St. Lukes day with five others.

There is built in this Burgh lately by the Duke of Lauderdale, a weel contrived handsom Church, as it were consisting of four Isles, with a large steeple rising in the middle thereof. The Burgh stands about a bowdraught be west the Water on the Westside.

Upon the Waterside beneath the Town stands the stately House of Thirlestone Castle, of old called the Fort of Lauder built by Chancellour Maitland the Dukes Grandfather, but of late wonderfully adorned by the Duke with Avenues, Pavilions, Outer Courts, and stately Entries with large Parks and Planting.

The considerable Towns upon the westside of the said

Water are BlackChester, Pilmoor, Trabrown, Over and Nether Sheilfield, Moorcleuch, Caldshiells, and the Woodheads, with Lauder Barns. And on the eastside Whelplaw, Adingston, Lylestoun, Newbigging, Wantonwalls, Thirlestone, Blyth, Gairmoor, Bredshaw, Ridge & Eggerhope, Woodencleuch, Easter and Wester Maineses. There is at Eggerhope a large Park built by the Duke for the haining of some appearing Oaks, which were growing upon several litle hills like Juniper bushes, and now in six years space, since they were guarded from beasts, are risen to the height of Forkshafts and Oxcoads.

There are in this Parish, on the Eastside, of Gentlemens <sup>192.</sup> Houses—Burncastle of the name of Logan, and Park of the Mains of Lauder, where there is a considerable bush of wood with planting upon Lambing edge, on the westside, St Leonards of the name of Hume, & Chappel of the name of Peter, both environed with considerable Planting.

There are three Rooms called Blainslies, lying within this Parish, though appertaining to Teviotdale, where the most considerable Oats for seed grow, and are bought up by all the shires about, for that Use, and ordinarily give near double rate.

Under this, is the Parish of Ligertwood, upon the eastside of the Water, containing the Kirkhill, the Town of Ligertwood, Birken-side, Easter and Wester Moristouns, Adingstoun to the south, and Dods to the North, with the Barony of Bowne, wherein is Corsbie Loch.

Beneath the Parish of Ligertwood lyes Earlestoun, close upon the Water, where Thomas the Rhymer was born, having for his sirname Lermouth. This Parish lyes east and west betwixt Leider and Eden Waters. Upon Leider side stands the ancient House of Coldinknows and beneath it near Tweed, Redpath, betwixt which of old were great Woods; above them a great height called the Blackhill, on the south side whereof stands the Park a Gentleman's House of the name of Brown; upon the east end stands the Barony of Mellerstanes, the Town of Phans.

Beneath this, upon Tweedside is the Parish of Mertoun. The Westmost part is Gledswood below Redpath with a considerable bush of Wood under it. Over against Old Melross

below this, is Beemerside an old Estate of the name of Higgins. Below this, the Abbacy of Dryburgh over against Lessuden, where hath been a stately Fabrick, where the Corps of M<sup>r</sup> Alex<sup>r</sup> Simpson Minister of Mertoun lies, who was a man eminent for piety. A mile below this is Mertoun which is  
 193. the Residence of Sir W<sup>m</sup> Scot of Harden. A Dwelling house very commodious, though not modish, adorn'd with considerable Planting & Parks. Below this lyes Dalcloof close upon Tweed over against Littledean. About a mile benorth Mertoun is Whiterig, and the Loch, and the Bog, which was an useless peice of ground, but being drained by Sir W<sup>m</sup> affords yearly eight or ninescore dargs of Hay. A little beneath this, is the Town of Brotherstains, under which Sir W<sup>m</sup> hath built a considerable Park.

Below Mertoun close upon Tweed is the Parish of M<sup>c</sup>Kairs-toun the Laird being of the name of M<sup>c</sup>Dougal: and below him a little off Tweed is Todridge belonging to a Gentleman of the same name; and benorth it is Charterhouse and Charterhouse moor. This Parish lyes over against Rutherford and Roxburgh, and is now in Teviotdale.

Benorth this is the Parish of Smaleholm, which is also in Teviotdale and Smaleholm Craigs be west Smaleholm, where are several considerable Parks built by Sir W<sup>m</sup> with great stone Dikes. To the east hand is Smaleholm Spittle. These three Parishes ly betwixt Leider and Eden close upon Tweed.

Eden, which is the second most considerable Water in the Mers, hath its rise off the back of Bownehill within the Barony of Corsbie & comes down by the Stock Bridge, where the Dean Burn joyns with it, and runs down besouth Bassindean, which is a part of Westruther Parish, and then runs down benorth Fasyde betwixt the two Gordons.

The first Parish on this Water is Gordon, the Church is in West Gordon, standing upon a Promontory-neck. A little under this to the west is Greenknow a Gentlemans house of the name of Pringle, where there is considerable Planting. A  
 194. mile be West this, is the Town Huntlie Wood and Huntlie, whence the Marquess hath his Stile. And benorth this, is Huntliewood Knock a considerable Hill with a Wood. Upon the northside thereof, to the north of the Church is Fasyde a

Gentleman's Dwelling of the name of Mowet. Be East the Church is East Gordon a long Town, Bowes, Byrewalls, Middlethrid; and a mile be East these Bellitaw; and be north these is Hecklespath, Rumeltounlaw, Gordon Mains, and Rumeltoun lying close to Blacater Water bordering with the Parish of Greenlaw.

Upon the east side of Eden, some two miles below Gordon is the Parish of Nenthorn, which borders with Smaleholm on the other side of the Water. Here is the Church, the Town, the Myln, where Littledean has built a Dwelling house. Be north is the Sneep a Gentleman's House of the name of Haitlie. A short mile below Nenthorn on the West side of the Water is the Town of Newtoun, which has a regular Avenue carrying upward to a great House built by Sir Alex<sup>r</sup> Don the Proprietar of those lands beautified with Parks and Planting. On the same side of the Water below, lyes Ednam Parish toward Tweed, now in Teviotdale, belonging to a very ancient Family of the name of Edmiston.

Be north this on the east side of the water, is the Parish of Stitchell likewise in Teviotdale, belonging to Sir Robert Pringle, where there is a considerable House, Avenues, Parks and Planting, stately seated on a rising ground.

The third Water, which lyes toward Tweed, is Leitte, which has two heads, the one from the West, and the other from the east. That from the West hath its rise from Lurgie Loch benorth Nenthorn, and runs through Hume Parish and carries the name of Lambden Burn, till it meet with Lette at the East end of the Parish of Eccles.

Upon this Water is the Parish of Hume. Upon the north side of this Water is the Town of Hume upon a rising ground near a mile of length, in the middle whereof was a stately <sup>195.</sup> commanding like Castle, but now demolished by the English in the late Invasion all appertaining to the Earles of Hume. In this Parish and to the south is Hume Byres, Hariheuch, Hardes Myln, & Hardes Myln Place; to the north Fasithill and Todridge, and to the east Oxmoor. In this Parish the Church is demolished, and the whole annexed to Stitchell.

Besouth Lambden Burn towards Tweed in a pleasant ground lyes the large Parish of Eccles, where is a great number of



Gentlemen dwelling upon all airths of the Church, especially towards the North & the east ; as the Town of Eccles, where the Laird dwells of the name of Hume ; benorth Over Mains of the name of Dickson, Nether Mains of the name of Bruntfeild, Rennetside Heads of the name of Hume, Hardacres and Whitehouse of the name of Bruntfeild ; both of them, Dedrigs of the name of Marjoribanks, where there is an ancient Monument of a stone Cross : Tofts, now Purveshall ; where is a considerable House and a large fruitfull Orchard ; Mersingtoun now belonging to Mr Alexander Swintoun ; Herdrige belonging to Sir W<sup>m</sup> Purves ; Kames belonging to Mr Hary Hume Commissar of Lauder ; Ernslaw of the name of Douglass. Boughtrige of the name of Dickson ; Belchester and Newbigging of the same name ; the Towns of Lettam belonging to the Earles of Hume. All thir ly to the North and North East. Close upon Tweed is the Town of Birdgame a little above Werk Castle in Northumberland. A little besouth the Church is Newtoun of the name of Edgar, and be south that is Lochtoun with a Loch belonging to Sir James Cockburn of Riselaw.

The other Head of Leitte rises out of the Parish of Whitsome and runs through the middle of the Parish of Swintoun and then down betwixt the Hirsell and the Hirsellaw to Tweed at Caldstream.

Whitsome Parish which lyes weel East, containeth Whitsome Town, to the north whereof is Rewlie, to the northwest  
 196. Whitsomelaws, Ramrige, and to the southwest Newtoun of Whitsomehill, Whitsome vaults.

To the southwest is the Barony and Parish of Swintoun, Swintounhill and little Swintoun, the Ellback which is considerably garnished with planting.

At the foot of this Water is the Parish of Lendhill on both sides. On the Westside is Hirsell the E. of Humes Dwelling house, Todrige, Hatchetnise, Skemoor, and the Lees close upon Tweed. On the Eastside to the north is Darnchester, Castlelaw, Weelcleuch, close upon Tweed, Caldstream a mercat town over against Cornhill in Northumberland, Lendhill where the Church is, and be East it Graden a Gentleman's House of the name of Hume.

Benorth this, is the Town and Parish of Simperin belonging to the Laird of Langtoun.

The two next considerable Waters are Blacater & Whittetter viz. Black Water & White Water. Blacater, which is the fourth considerable Water, runs from West to East, its course will be above ten miles, before it run into Whittiter under Chirnside. It has its rise in the Parish of Westruther from the Flassedges, where several stripes or springs meet together and it's called Blackburn, & the ground where it rises, whilk lyes betwixt Lauderdale and Duns & it is called the Blackburn.

The first Parish on this Water is Westruther. Be west the Church lyes Thornidikes a Gentleman's Dwelling of the name of Brown, of old they were Frewhes, a considerable fertile ground both for Corn and Pasturage as any part of Scotland. Benorth that, is SpotsWood, where, of old the Lairds of that Ilk dwelt; of whom came the Superintendent and the Archbishop, thereafter Chancellour. To the north is Roe cleuch, Flass, and the Lairdship of Weatherlie an ancient Family of the name of Edgar. To the south Harelaw and Bassindean. That Parish of old had great Woods with wild beasts, fra quhilk the Dwellings and Hills were designed as Woolstruther, <sup>197.</sup> Roe cleuch, Hindside, Hartlaw and Harelaw.

The next Parish upon this Water is Greenlaw, the northmost parts whereof are Wetfoot and Bedshile town, where there is a Dwelling house belonging to Kimerghame, where is a Water called Fangriste which runs to Blacater, whereon stands a Mill. Beside this, close on the Water is Hardlaw; and below that, Halyburton a Gentleman's Dwelling of the name of Hume, where is a considerable Flow-Moss hemmed about by Nature, as though it had been fortified by Art. Below this, close on the Water is the Church & Town of Greenlaw with a considerable number of Steeds and Mills. On the southside of the Water, is Broomhill, Westerraw, Greenlaw Castle. Foulshot law, Old Greenlaw. Routchester Rig a Gentleman's Dwelling with a considerable Orchard well planted; Rowestoun, Lambden, Howlawes, Crumrig, and Angleraw.

The Nixt Parish close upon the Water is Fogo, where is a

large Moor, called Fogo Moor, on the east end whereof stands Charterhall a Dwelling belonging to a Gentleman of the name of Trotter. Besouth the Town and Kirk is Riselaw the Dwelling of Sir James Cockburn. Be east that is Harkeis a considerable Dwelling belonging to Sir Roger Hog a Lord of the Session, Bogend; and to the northwest Chesters, Sisterpath, Cathrie. Benorth this towards Stanmoorlaw is the Church of Polwart & Town & Mains & Polwart House all belonging to Sir Patrick Hume of Polwart, a fertile ground for pasturage well watered, having three burns Howburn, Blackburn, and Longburn running pleasantly, with large Banks and Deans with good Shelters. It has a stately Dwelling, with variety of Parks and Planting. Be this [*sic*], is Charterdeanfoord, where four Lairds and Lords may stand on their own ground and reach a Cup to each other.

198. Polwart stands on the northside of Blacater, where is an excellent new House, Planting and Parking. To the North it hath Stanmoorlaw a great Height, where in times of the troubles were Canons and Bullets fram'd in the snow in great numbers seen by many. The Parish belongs to Sir Patrick Hume as also the Barony of Greenlaw, a Burgh of Barony with a weekly Mercat.

Betwixt Blacater and Whitteter is Langtoun Water which rises off Langtoun-edge, and comes down by Polwart Town, on which stands Polwart Mill: then it goes down through the Parish of Langtoun, runs 'twixt Wedderburn and West Nisbet, thereafter enters into Blacater.

On this Water stands the Dwelling of Sir Archibald Cockburn of Langtoun, built by the present Laird, a stately House commodiously contriv'd with all Office houses, large stables and stable-Court, large Avenues, Orchard, Bowling Green, Garden, Woods, Planting and variety of Parks, whereby the Ground is wonderfully improven. The whole Parish appertains to the Laird as also the whole Parish of Symperin and several Lands in the Parish of Duns.

Next to Langtoun is the Parish of Duns lying betwixt Whittiter and Blacater. The Town and Church stand on a rising ground in the middle of the Shire, a Burgh of Barony, a great weekly Mercat, the like whereof is not in the King-

dom, (for every Weddensday except in the dead time of Winter, there is great abundance of Sheep, horse, Kine, & all sorts of Bestial) and severall considerable Fairs. To the north of the Town is Dunslaw a strong rising ground with a considerable large Plain on the top, where 20,000 or 30,000 men may be commōdiously drawn up. Under the Law to the West is the Castle, which is now the Dwelling of Sir James Cockburn. Above that is Borthwick; to the northward Cockburn, Cockburnlaw, Burnhouses, Oxendean, all towards Whittiter, Cumlage: Under Duns, Gruelldikes, where Laird Duns lives, of which family was Johannes Duns Scotus. To <sup>199.</sup> the eastward, Manderstoun, under it Crumstane and below that the Palace of Wedderburn of the name of Hume.

Be east Duns, is the Parish of Ederam lying on the north hand close to Whittiter, and to the south to Blacater. and be south Blacater. East and West Nisbet, which were considerable Families, stand upon the north side of Blacater, Blacater and Kimerghame on the south side of Blacater. The Castle of Blacater and Palace of West Nisbet are considerable Houses with large Planting and fruitfull Orchards; Kello, Kello Castle & Eortie Loch lies betwixt the Nisbets. Broomhouse is on Whitteter.

The next Water is Whittiter the most considerable of the Shire which riseth forth of Lammermoor in Lothian; for here the greatest part of Lammermoor appertains to East Lothian. It comes from the Whitercleuch down by Johnscleuch a considerable Dwelling of Blacaters in Lothian. To the southwest is the Water of Dye, whereon the Parish of Langfirmacus stands. On this Water is Dunside, Byrecleuch, Trottingshaw, Scarlaw, Whinrig, Roeburn, Deringtoun, Dimpells, Dronsheill, Caldra, Langfirmacus Place, which is considerable for building, parks, Planting, Wood and Bridge; Longfirmacus Town, Dyeshauch, Mortoun, Kettlesheill.

Next is Falsna Water, which runs into Whittiter on which is the Church and Parish of Crainshawes, to which many towns and steeds appertain, which ly in the middle of the Parish of Longfirmacus as Dunsyde, Whinrig, Roeburn, &c. Howbog, Hainshawsyde.

Upon the East hand Bothwell Water enters Whitteter.



Under this is the Parish of Ellumfoord, Church and Town. Above it is the Smiddie hill. To the south on the otherside  
200. of the Water is Whitechester.

Below Ellumfoord on Whitteter is the Parish of the Abbay Church, where is a Gentleman's Dwelling. This Parish lyes on both sides of the Water. On the northside is Blackerstoun, Strafontain, Gods or Goakcraft Θεάσιος whereby the Author of the Douglass designs himself, Becrinside.

Below this, on the eastside of Whittiter is the Parish of Prestoun and Bunkell a Regality appertaining to the Marquess of Douglass, a Dwelling house at Prestoun. In that Parish is the Castle of Billie and Blanern close upon the Water. There is considerable Planting at Prestoun.

On the same side of the Water, low down is Chirnside, below which, the two Waters of Blacater and Whittiter meet, and thereafter the Water keeps the name of Whittiter. This Town is a Presbytery Seat, the Town in form of a T. Below this Town is Ninewells a house of the name of Hume, East Mains, Spencer's Mains. On the Waterside are considerable Freestone Rocks, Caves, and Quarries. About a mile below this, is the Town and Place of Eidingtoun, where a considerable House of the name of Ramsay, excellent Meadows, and a fruitfull Corn bearing ground.

On the south side of Whittiter 'twixt Whittiter & Tweed are three Parishes; Hultoun, the Town and Church. Under it Huttoun-hall. Hiltoun's Dwelling of the name of Johnstoun, Paxton, Clarebad, Horndean, Fishik, Spittle.

Hiltoun Parish, Town and Kirk, Crosrig, Jordanfeild Dykethead.

Ladykirk an excellent Church, Upsettlingtoun, Bannockburn.

Below Eidingtoun close upon Tweed, the Parish, Town and Mannour Place of the Barony of Foulden, a large Town, a plentiful fruitfull ground, Nunlands above the Town to the North.

201. Be east Foulden is the Boundrode and Berwick bounds close upon Tweed to the German Ocean, and benorth the Boundrode to the Ocean is the Parish of Mordingtoun, standing on a rising high green Hill, Mordingtoun Church and Place,

where pleasant Parks and Pasturage, belonged of old to a Brother of the House of Douglass; Edrington & Edrington Castle to the Lauders, Nether Mordington where the Mill Dam is hewed through a Rock, & runs under ground. Toward the Ocean is the Town and Place of Lammertoun. Upon the Ocean, the eastmost Town in the Shire is St. Cuthbert's Kirk, where K. James the 4<sup>th</sup> married the King of England Henry the 7<sup>th</sup>s eldest daughter, whence {the succession to the Crown flowed, Lammertounsheill, and Ross an excellent Harbour, where plenty of fishes.

The last considerable Water is Ey which runs through three Parishes, Coldinghame, Eytoun or Aitoun, & Eymouth.

Aytoun Parish, wherein Plandergaist, Whitrig, Bastenrig, Castle and Town of Aytoun, on the Post rode a Bridge Fleemington famous for freestone Quarries within the Ocean.

Eymouth Parish, wherein Linthill, Redhall, Nether Byre, Brounsbank, Gunsgreen, Eymouth, Town, an excellent Harbour fortified by the French in Queen Marie's Minority.

Coldinghame a great Parish, whereunto most of the upper part of the Water of Ey belongs; for Ey rises off the east end of Lammermoor Hills, and runs mostly from North to east, till it enter the Ocean. On the head of the Water is Blackburn, Butterdean, Berriehill, Easter and Wester Brockhills, where Nuts grow in abundance, Rentoun, where an excellent House, great Woods & parks. Haw-wood where [*sic*] Wood and Place; Swansfeild, Hobroun, West Restoun, Hillend, East Restoun, Swinewood, Whitefeild, Blackhill, Hornend, Ell Water which cometh into Ey, where Ell Mill, and Law Mill and the Press which appertained to Sir George Hume of Manderstoun, Coldinghame Town, Coldinghame Law, Abbacy <sup>202.</sup> built 1098, St. Ebba's head, Windilaws, Redheuch, Fastcastle, St. Helens Kirk, High-Chesters, Falabank, Old Cammes, Dowlaw, Coldsyde, Lumisdean, Haven, Coldinghame Loch, abounding with Pikes and Peaches, fresh water without a Bottom on the top of the Rock beside the Devil's arse, which is in perpetual motion.

Be north this, is the Parish of Cockburnspath, in that same side of the Town before mentioned on the Water of Ey, Blackburn, Foulfoord, Leis, East & West Sheills, Penmout-

sheill, & Penmouthsheelbank a considerable Wood, Old Cammes, Redheuch, Whitecove an Harbour for Herring fishing, the Pathhead, Posthouse, the Town, Place and Church of Cockburnspath, all over foregainst Dunglass and Oldhamstocks in Lothian Dunglass Burn being the March.

There are above 100 Mills in the Shire.

There are great and commodious Fishings upon Tweed.

There are severall Woods, most part Birch, pleasant though not commodious.

There are severall Hills, as the Blackhill under Ersiltoun, the Douns at Mellerstaine, the Knock at Huntliwood, Bounhill, Edgar-Hope, Terculan Law, Seeinghill-Cross, the Flassedges, Twin lawes, or *gemelli montes* above Weatherlie, Deringtoun lawes, Langtoun Edge, Dunslaw, Cockburnlaw, Codinghamelaw, Mordingtoun Hills, and Hills on the head of Ey.

The length of the Shire angle ways fra Lammertoun to Langcleuch, the Westmost Steed in Seeinghill Kirk Parish, being direct East and West, will be but 24 miles, the breadth not above 14.

The Dotterills use about Bastenrig on the East hand and the Moristouns & Mellerstane Douns on the West; the last the 14<sup>th</sup> of April, and the first the 14<sup>th</sup> of May.

Several considerable Houses built of late.

203. The largest and most considerable Parishes are Lauder, Eccles, Duns and Coldinghame, Eccles Church exceeding four Gentlemens Dwellings.

The considerablest Names are 1. the Humes of which besides the Earle there will be above 30 Families with Estates. 2 The Cockburns, Langtoun Cockburn, Riselaw, Caldra.

Several ancient Families decayed; West Nisbet was of that Ilk, East Nisbet, Chirside, Mertoun, Halyburtoun, Spotswood of that Ilk. Thornidike French, Barony of Boan or Corsbie, Easter and Wester Moristouns, Easter and Wester Mains, Numeltoun Law, all Cranstouns, Mellerstains Heatly, Laird Lermouth in Ersiltoun, whereof Thomas the Rhymer, now extinct & many others.

The most considerable Buildings are Langtoun, Polwart, Blacater, Duns-Castle, Purveshall, Newtoun Don, Stitchell a

considerable House, though in the bosom of the Mers, yet reckoned to Teviotdale; Longfirmacus a considerable House, Weatherlie a new House, Thirlstane Castle the first.

Few Bridges. A timber one at Lauder over Leider, Stockbridge upon the head of Eden; three over Blacater, one at Westruther, another at Greenlaw, a third at Fogo; two over Whittiter, one at Longfirmacus, the other at Chirnside; one over Ey at Aytoun; one over Ell at the Press, ere it enter Ey; one at Cockburnspath on the Post Rode.

### A GENERAL DESCRIPTION of the STEWARTRY of KIRKCUDBRIGHT

The Stewartry of Kirkcudbright is circular whose Center will be the south end of the great Loch of Kenne Water & the most easterly point thereof; which bordereth upon the Airds belonging to the Lairds of Earlestoun. The Water of Kenne from its fountain, while it meeteth with the Water of Dee, and then the Water of Dee to the Isle of Ross, where it entereth into the Ocean, maketh up the Diameter of the Circle &c. to page 221. See vol.      page      .

### ACCOUNT of the CURIOSITIES at DRUMFREIS <sup>204.</sup> by DOCTOR ARCHBALD

Drumfreis.

In answer to the Doctor his Advertisement, and your desire, I must say, *Messis est nobiscum parca, sed paleas colligamus.*

As for the nature of this Countrey, yourself can sufficiently inform the Doctor, & also as to the Product, which you know to be Wool & Cows, Fish & Tallow for Burdeaux exchanged there with Pruns Wine, and Brandy; Skins and hides for Holland. Our Trading is with France, Holland & Dantzick.

I have not observed any thing worthy his notice cast up from our narrow sea.

Near this, or within ten miles in the Stewartry of Galloway are Silk-worms, Bastard, Amethysts, Limestone, Pearles and (as is thought, but not yet found) Lead & Coal.



In Nidesdale are ancient Houses, such as yourself can inform for nothing is here, which is not ancient enough; and few things new. You'll inform concerning the ancient Houses & Lochs such as Closeburn &c. Woods such as Tinnald, Mouswald, Carlaverock, Dardarroch &c.

As for Drumfreiss, you also sufficiently know it: it's so called from the Freez-well beside it. It's ruled by one Provest, 3 Baillies. It's Revenue is reckoned betwixt 5 & 6000 Merks. You'll inform of the old Gray-frier Church, where the Cumin was killed; of the Castle, Bridge, Church, new Exchange, our large Granary house, which though old, is still new work; our stately Cross, large street, and pleasant situation by & amongst the River Nith.

Just beside this Town upon the side of the River, hard by the Castle of Cumin, in the place called Castledikes once well fortified with Mounts & Ditches, but now ruinat, springs a fountain most strongly all Summer Harvest & Spring, though never so hot & dry, which precisely about Hallowmass, as is generally reported dries up, though the Winter were never so rainy untill the Spring.

Within four miles I remember to have seen a spring, which at that time was dried up, wherein may be digg'd abundance of an earthy substance like Litharge of Gold, unctuous and greasy, which when the people mix it with water, casts up a splendent, golden oyle like colour wherewith they colour their doors and windows.

Within ten miles is a Well, whence the neighbouring people digs an Earth, which they call Bleck. Its black and thick as I remember *instar Limi Argillosi*. Herewith they colour much of that Cloth they call Galloway-Grays.

I did here see a Boy five or six years old, living within three miles of this place, out of whose joynts, shoulders, buttocks fingers & toes did grow little Horns like the *Typhi* or young Horns of a Goat black and hard, which, when they came to the length of two inches, did sorely trouble him & fall off, others successeing; thus every half year.

In a Moss, which lyes upon the eastside of this Town seven miles long, and one mile broad dig'd I have the Leg of a Child cut off as appears, by the Patella. Its of a stickish like sub-

stance, the Tibia & Fibula inhosened in a Casement like the black bark of a Tree, which is in place of the Muscles, Tibæus Peronæus &c. All the interossean Muscles of the Feet, Toes, Ancles, Nails, and other parts exactly well proportioned as any thing Nature can efform. Num fuerat lutum instructum animal principio integrum vel deficiens animal procedens; An fœtus humo commissus et a bituminoso calore conservatus, et processu temporis quasi transmutatus, dignus est D.D. Sibbaldo nodus, ad cujus augusta subsellia hoc ipsum reclino.

As for Annandale, the Supreme Governour, Stewart and Lord thereof is the Earle of Annandale, an Ancient Family, & Wardens of the Border. Wherefore their Arms are supported with a saddled Horse and a crowned Lion, carrying upon the Crest a flying spur. The Motto is *Nunquam non paratus*.

In this Countrey are the Wells of Moffet, incircled with a Wall by the foresaid family.

His Houses are Lochwood and Newbie; the one desireable <sup>206</sup> for strength the other for pleasure; that for pasture, Moss or fire & Wood this for Fish and plenty of Coneys.

Here is the King's Castle of Lochmaban, famous for defending the Countrey in the old English Inrodes, strengthened by a Loch surrounding it, where the Fishes called Venaces & Gevenaces are talked of nowhere else in our Countrey. They are pleasant white Fishes.

Contiguous unto this Loch, are seven large Lochs, all which have the same Fishes, a clear and stony bottom, with a tossing surge and noise before a storm blow. The Fishes resemble Whitings in colour, tast & figure, only being a little more dry.

Beside this Castle is a Moss, which giveth Peits for fire most white,—yeilding a bright shining fire and flame.

Here is also in this County, St. Ruths Church, called Ruth-wall, where lyes a Monument broken in two peices, which was a Pillar quadrangle of stone, reaching from the bottom of the Church unto the roof, and in it cut the portraiture of our Saviour with Beams incircling his head, and beneath his feet. *Supra Serpentem et Draconem conculcabo*, and underneath is the effigie of Peter & Paul beneath whom is *Petrus et Paulus fregerunt parem in deserto*. Many other Draughts & Letters,

Greek, Latin & Hebrew have been there but time and ill using hath abras'd them.

At this place, the people have a way of making salt from the sea-sand which they gather up in Summer, and prepare in Winter. If the D<sup>r</sup>. desire to know the way they prepare it, I shall give him an account.

Upon the top of a great Height is a Tower called the House of Repentance some 8 miles from the King's Castle and 15 from the English border, where Beacons being placed, the Castle had immediately an alarm. This was seen by most of the Whole County, and much of Nidesdale, and some of Galloway, putting them to their sudden posture of Defences.

As for Wells, the three shires abound with many, unto which people resort, more famous from fables then fates; yet several of them resemble Moffet Wells, in colour, tast and smell.

As for the nature of the soil & the houses, with Woods & Lochs, yourself knows, and hath seen them.

And as to Galloway, I have remitted it, conform to your last, unto M<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Ewart the Provost of Kirkcudbright, who will give account of what is observable or memorable there, where are the most ancient Monuments of this Countrey, and many old Abbacies, as Newabbay, Dundrenan, Whithorn, Glenluce, Tungland, all very considerable, and with us are only Holywood, and the Church of the Colledge whereof yourself can as well Inform as I.

In that Castle Loch at Lochmaban are various Fishes, besides these two formerly mentioned; Pikes, Green backs, Breams, Vetches, Pearches with some others.

I will give you account of our sea fishes with the next, being now hastened.

#### Continuation of the former Account.

In the moneths of June & July they take an Harrow & go over the dry sands, which I have observed spangling as with shining nitre; and having raised it, they rake it into smal Ranges, or little Arcolas, and next day if they fear Rains, they take a sled with a broad board fixed to the hinder part thereof, the edge downward upon the ground, which they

call the Happ and with this drawn by a Horse, they gather the Ranges together into an heap. Thereafter within some few dayes they carry it away upon Wagons, drawn by 8 oxen unto the Coast, & there they heap it up unto the bigness of a Countrey house which they then call the Saltstacks. Thus it stands till Winter and then they form an even peice of ground upon a little ascent; either naturally or artificially <sup>208.</sup> so, after the form of a Bed, which they oblute with clay, raising the edges high and near the end of this Bed, which they call the Coach, they pierce through an hole into an hollow place digged below into the Earth, called the Pit, and this Hole they stop. Then they carry a sufficient quantity of the Saltstack & spread it over the whole Coach, laying it three foot thick equally. Then they lay down upon the middle of the sand, a broad Turf and upon this, they pour down a sufficient quantity of sea Water which they take up from little hollow Ponds they digg within the flood mark, being there left in the ebbing and after 8 hours standing with the sand which they call Blenking they pull out the Stopple below, which is made up of Oak or Aller Bark and the Water stills down into the Pit, wherewith they then fill their Pans, which are placed near the Coach, and made of Lead sitting upon a furnace. The Pan is usually an ell and a half long and near an ell broad. The fire is of Peits, and herewith they exhale the Water, till the salt only remain, watching most vigilantly, otherwise ther Pan melts, & they lose their pains. With this those people help themselves, and serve the Countrey about them.

It is made at that place called *Ruthæ Vallum* or Ruthwall, where that Monument of stone is, of which I did give account in my first, which is said to have been erected by the Saxons, having progressed no farther into this Countrey then that place, and that thereafter by Christians inscribed with sculptures & characters.

The salt is somewhat amaricant, which I suspect to be from the Nitre.

On these sands, as I remember, I have seen Kali grow thick & on the banks *Brassica marina*.

Upon the opposite Coast on high Rocks Crithmun called Paspire.



Fishes in this Coast might be more observable, if we had fishing. I give the names as here called, Salmon, Crowner, 209. Keiling, Sturgeon, Whiting, Cockle, Muscle, Preans, (which they call Garnets in Holland, or Garen hete Garen,) Chucks which I did never see elsewhere.

They are like these Prans in figure, and above all things, resemble the smallest & coarsest of horse corn; they are clear and transparent with a forked tail and two long Cornua stretching from their head straight forward. The manner of catching them is this; In the entrance of the river Nith into the sea the poor people goes, when the sea is ebbing, into the Water, middle deep two by two, carrying betwixt them a long sheet, and with one hand they hold deep beneath the Water, the one edge of the sheet or Blanket, and carrie the other upon the surface of the Water: thus walking against the stream, they catch peckfulls of these Vermine-like Fishes, and the Countrey people hold them most wholesom and appetising, being boil'd with Leeks and sprinkled with salt, and eaten with bread.

Oysters, Sole-floukes, Turbot-fleuk, Eels sometimes three ells long or more. I have the head of one more than a large foot in lenth, Skate or Flounder, Etterpyles like a small burn Trout, with a large head and broad shoulders, carrying three stings on the back, & one at the corner each side the mouth. It is a pleasant fish for eating; but its stings are so tormenting, that the pricked person is scarce able to stir, but must be carried home, and after a whiles pain as three dayes, it ceaseth, and the swelling falleth. They flat these Pricks down upon their backs and raise them at pleasure, or when irritated. Skeddan a fish so called, but esteemed an Anchove. These two are found in the entrance of Annand Water and Sulway Sands into the sea, or close by the E. of Annandale's House Newbie, where he dwells.

Haddocks, Herring not very much desired, because their other fishes for a long time. Sea-adder, Thornback, Lamprey, with a Beek stretching like a Whaap's, Hirlings, Sea-needle, which hath a long Beek 3 inches in length; its body is the length of a Burn trout and much like a Whiting with a forked 210. tail, each fork an inch long, with fins & scales. Russ-fish, so

called from their smell and colour, being sea-green coloured, and smelling like a Bundle of green bushes. These seem spurlings. White Flook whereof some are a little blewish, with golden like spots over all the skin. Skatebread, which is a little small Fish an inch and a half long, shining clear as silver, which the people eat (boyled) with their bones head & tail. they can only endure one boyl or two, Lumps or Limps, Partons.

### Fowls.

Bittour making a great sound in the summer evenings & mornings by thrusting her beak into the ground, when she cries.

Blackcock, whereof Sir Ro<sup>t</sup> Dalyell hath one hanging in his Hall, which is white almost all over his body.

Green Plover returning every spring in abundance, and staying all summer.

Jay called Lipper-Jayes, taught to speak as exactly as any Parrat.

Myresnipes, which is like a Feldefare, called Heatherbleet. In pleasant summer evenings they soar high in the Air with a quivering voice, and are excellent meat.

I mention none else, as being ordinary, save Woodpeckers.

### Quadrupeds.

In the Wood of Glenea belonging to Sir Ro<sup>t</sup> Dalyell are perfect squirrels but never exceeding the bigness of a little Rat. Badgers in Galloway which the Countrey people catch and boyl reserving their fat for aches and bruises. Hedgehog, Hart and Hind runing wild on Galloway Mountains. Otters in severall places.

### Insects.

The kind of *Grylli focarii* or *pistrinarii* are here abundantly very like Cantharides.

This Aranea, which I have sent with its silk beside it, whereof none are to be found in our Countrey, but in this one place, which is a Cove upon the sea shore environed therewith

211. very near at each full Tide. The persons I employed to search for them tell me that with lighted candles they crept into the little entrance and then came into a large dark arched Room, upon which here and there hung these little Balls full of yound and the Lady one spinning amongst or about them, nothing else to be found there within the vault.

### Fossiles.

The Earth call'd Bleck digg'd out of a Pit an ell and a half long and near as broad, and the depth of a Pike. The Countrey people boyl Aller or Oaktree bark in Water making a strong Lixive, and therein they boyl this also together with their Cloth, which thence receives a black colour. Traditionally they report here a ship loden with Iron to have sunk. The Lake smells exactly as Moffet Well. The sea sometimes overflows it. The Earth when taken from the place quickly spoys, and losing its black colour turneth into a clay colour unless the vessel be covered with Iron or Iron put into it.

I have not yet gotten that Lithargick like Earth, neither the white Peit, but shall send them as soon as possible.

I have sent the *Tibie efformata fossilis*, which I desire you be pleased to send me back again as soon as you may.

I could send you that stone, which is like the Bristol Stones and another which is *Cornu Cervi fossile* with signatures. I hope you will send them back again to me.

### Wells.

- Here are many superstitiously used, but Physical I know none, save Moffet Wells in Annandale. A Well in Closeburn Parish in a Moss belonging to the Laird of Closeburn. Another at Tothorwald belonging to the D. of Queensberry. A third at Kirkbeen in Galloway within a mile of the black
212. Lake in a Meadow. These are used after the same manner, have the same colour, tast and smell but the ill luck of a lesser fame.

Many run superstitiously to other Wells and obtain, as they

imagine, health or advantage. But I know of no Physical influence. Only from the deceits of that they are deceived & there they offer bread & cheese or Money, by throwing them in into the Well.

And lately being called four miles hence to a Gentleman's sick child troubled with vomiting and faintings, I told him that I suspected the smalpocks, and desired him not to fear. Then he told me regrettingly that some of his servants had given the Child a draught of a Well within a mile of his House, which the sick parties friends fetch there to the sick, and having given them of it to drink, they reckon that they shall live, if they do not vomit it, but if they vomit, they must die.

I went and viewed that Well at Castle Dikes within a little of this Town, and saw it yet running. But it's confirmed by all who know it, and particularly one to be believed, who dwelt there long, told for confirmation that he knew it these 40 years, and never knew it run or spring in the Winter, though never so rainy & in the summer never dry up in the greatest drought. It is a pleasant and plentiful spring in summer, as I have observed.

And within half a mile or less of it upon the other side of a little Height, is another Well, which dries up for three or four moneths in the latter end of Winter. But I am not so certified of this last.

#### Serpents.

Here I was told that the Slow-worm was found at Closeburn's House near the gate, and at the Castle Meadow at Cockpeel.

Near this or within 20 miles was a young Gentleman, who in an hote summers day, did readily slip into a Moss and catch an Adder, which he presently thrust into his bosom and kept there for a while without any hurt, and then dismiss'd it.

I saw a Countrey woman here, out of whose inferiour pro- 213.  
pendent ear-lob, did spring such a flux of blood, that she was almost gone and thereafter, when I saw her, I could not perceive the least vestige of any aperture.



I have some peices of a growing stone, which I carried from the bulk as a fragment, but not found here, I was perswaded of the growing of it by many worthy persons, & eye witnesses, and handled & saw it myself.

I saw & felt these horns, (whereof I did give account in my first) issuing out of all a Boys extremities, and resembling young goats horns, till they acquire a due bigness & then fell off and others succeeded.

Within twenty four miles at a place within a mile & an half of the sea did fall a shower of Herrings which covered near an half Acre of ground. They were alive and eaten by Gentlemen, who told me, when I came there (which was a little thereafter) concerning them. They soon dyed & quickly spoyled.

Further ACCOUNT anent GALLOWAY by D<sup>r</sup> ARCHBALD.

#### Sea Fishes in Galloway.

A Bayin a thick little Fish about a foot long, red coloured, with some white spots in the belly, narrow tailed, with an hard small head; a very well tasted Fish, but full of small bones like a Pike.

A Lyth, about the bigness of a small salmongilse, not unlike in shape, but dark gray coloured. It's esteemed the best Fish in all the Coast.

A Blockan, about the bigness of a white Salmond Trout, of shape and colour like the Lyth, but a dryer Fish.

Dog fish, about the length of a little salmon, but smaller of body big headed, hollow eyed; but draws very narrow at the taill, with a stiff thick fin, of a silver gray colour. His skin is so rough, that no man is able to draw one of them over his  
 214. shoulders, the skin takes such hold of his clothes. They do not spawn as other Fishes, but ferries the young at the navel, which I frequently saw, after they were caught. Their Fish is not good.

The Sand-Eel is of the shape of a fresh water Eel, about a foot or some more in length, but very clear, almost transparent. They are caught in the sand at low Tide, & well tasted. They are catchable with Angle at the sea shore.

The Pillock is a large fish about ten foot long & as great of

body as ane Ordinare Horse, almost shaped like a Pike, black coloured, with a long head, and a monstrous number of teeth all of equal length. It is seldom caught, but when inveigled in Herring-Nets. The Countrey-people make oyl of them.

Fresh Water fishes there.

A Nembling Skeal, shaped like a Herring, but of the quantity of a salmond gilse, with scales so hard, that it is hardly penetrable; and when it comes up the River, it affrights all other fishes, so that the fishing proves alwayes bad, when they abound.

The Horn-Eel about two foot long, not far from the shape of another Eel. It hath a pike out of its forehead like the figured horn of a Unicorn; coloured like a Sparling, and eatable.

The longer Eel is of length more than twelve foot. The skin of it is very strong, which the Inhabitants make use of for Girths to their horses lasting very long.

A Brandling is a little fish found in the Water of Fleit, about the bigness of a little Trout, with many red spots, but very excellent fish, where also are found Pearles.

A Cuddin is a little Fish as big as a large Trout, short but thick bodied, its belly a pure red colour, its tast very sweet, and is only found in a lake called Lake Grenoch in a very wild moorish place, where they abound.

There is a large Cave called the Cave of Uchtrie Macken <sup>215</sup>. close by the sea near Port-Patrick, accessible by six steps of a stair entering a gate built with stone and lime, at the end of which is built an Altar at least a structure after that figure, to which many people resort upon the first night of May, and there do wash diseased children with Water which runs from a spring over the Cave, and afterwards they ty a farthing or the like, and throw it upon the Altar.

There is a Well called Kernadert in the Parish of the Callis. The Water is very sweet, to which many people resort, who are distempered with sore heads or stomachs and it proves effectuell.

As for other Wells then these which I formerly mentioned savouring of Moffet Wells, they are only used superstitiously,

and their usefullness seeming fabulous, they are not worthy to trouble you with their names.

There is a little Isle beside the Mule of Galloway, where if sheep shall feed but a little, their teeth are immediately gilded of a golden colour.

There is a place of the sea close upon the Mule, where ships if they enter, are quickly turned round and sunk down. Whether it be from contrary Tides or a latadup, I know not, but I am informed of it by the Laird of Mule living there.

A brief DESCRIPTION of the bounds of PRES-  
BYTERY of PENPONT, being the Upper  
part of the Sherifffdom of Nidesdale.

Nidesdale is called by Buchanan *Nithia a Nitho amx*, which River doth run out of a small Fountain neer Damellintoun in Kyle out of a Hill called \_\_\_\_\_ & runneth in a small Rivulet for several miles, untill it come to Castle of Cumlock & waxing greater and greater by receiving other  
216. Rivers, doth run a course of above 30 miles, dividing the Sherifffdom all along to the Colledge of Lincluden in the Stewartry of Galloway, near to the town of Drumfreiss, where receiving a little Water, called Cluden, it divides Nidesdale from the lower part of Galloway, called the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright, and running by the Parishes of Terregglis, Traquire, New Abbay & Killblain on the Galloway side, and by the Town & Parish of Drumfreiss & Carlaverock on the Nidesdale side, it doth empty itself in the English sea or Sulway firth a little beneath the Castle of Carlaverock in Nidesdale, and beneath the great Hill called Criffell in Galloway.

Nidesdale is joyned with Annandale in the election of Commissioners for the Parliament; and the Barons of both are indifferently elected, but is in Jurisdiction separated from it, Annandale being a Stewartry having a Jurisdiction by itself: but Nidesdale is a Sherifffdom, where My Lord D. of Queensberry His Ma<sup>ties</sup> High Treasurer is Heritable Sheriff. But the Jurisdiction of the Sheriff here is not considerable partly

for that the Interest of the Duke is interwoven in many of the Parishes, and there be some whole Parishes belonging to his Grace, whereby his whole Interest being a Regality is subject to his Baillie; and partly for that there are several Baronies in this shire, all which are subject to the Jurisdiction of their immediate Superiours.

The whole Churches of the Sherifffdom of Nidesdale & Stewartry of Annandale being 4 Presbyteries, did constitute one Provincial Synod, untill the late restitution of Episcopacy : but since that time all the 4 Presbyteries are within the Diocese of Glasgow.

The Militia of Nithesdale and Annandale consisting of a considerable Regiment of Foot & a Troup of Horse, the Duke of Queensberry is Collonell to the Foot, and his Grace's son the E. of Drumlanrig is Rootmaster to the Horse.

1. But as to the Presbytery of Penpont; beginning at the <sup>217.</sup> head of the River, the first Parish is Kirkconnall, so denominated from Sanctus Congallus, who lived in a Cell by the vestiges of its foundation yet perceptible, hard by the fountain he did usually drink of called Fons Convalli or St. Conall's Well at the foot of an Hill, where Kirkconall Church is situate. This Parish hath on the South West side, the Parish of Cumlock in Kyle, where is the Hill of Consencon the march between Kyle and Nidesdale and on the Westside a part of the Parish of Afleck in Kyle. The Parish lyeth on both sides of the River of Nith, and on the Southside marcheth with the Parish of Carsfairn in Galloway and on the Southeast side is divided from the Parish of Sanquhar by a Rivulet called Killo; on the Southside of Nith & on the Eastside from the forenamed Parish of Sanquhar by a little Water called Crawick & on the North & Northwest side it is divided from the Parishes of Douglass & Crawford-John in Clidesdale. In the upper part of this Parish there hath been a Convent or Religious House near to the Church called Karko, afterward the Dwelling house of a family of the name of Crichtoun, whose Title it was. They say also that there hath been in this Parish a Nunry. The whole Parish belongeth now to My Lord D. of Queensberry, who is Patron of the Church. The ground is tolerably fruitfull both for corn and cattel, and



in many places well stored with coal. There is one coal pit called Parbrock, which as is thought, was first begun to be wrought out by the Picts, whose Pillars curiously wrought are yet to be seen. It is an excellent one, which they are working out at this day. There is no more work in any other place except in the brinks of some Burns there are some coals picked out by the countrey men. The grain here is oats & some barley.

218. 2. The next Parish is that of Sanquhar, so dominated from Sanctus Quarus, who lived here, which lying on both sides of the River Nith, as the former, is divided from Kirkconnal by the Water of Killo on the Southwest & Southside of Nith, & on the North side of the Water, by the River of Crawick on the Westside & on the North side from the Parish of Crawford-John in Clidesdale; and on the Eastside it is divided from the Parish of Kirkbride by an impetuous Water called Menock. Upon the Northside of Nith near to the Water of Crawick stands the Church of Sanquhar a considerable and large Fabrick, consisting of a spacious Church & a stately Quire where are the Tombs of severall of the Lords Crichtons of Sanquhar wrought in Freestone, and before them some Lords of the name of Ross. Near to the Church is situate the town of Sanquhar a Burgh Royall of old, and having as yet a Commissioner in the Parliament: a weekly mercat & some Fairs in the year. It was made a Gild City in the Reign of K. James the Sixth. It hath no great trade or resort unto it, partly by reason of its great distance from the sea, and partly because the Inhabitants about it are but few. In old times, the Citizens were stout men, who with assistance of their neighbours of the Parish without the Burgh, made usually an effectual resistance to the Borderers making Inrodes for prey in a part of this Parish, and oftentimes pursued them with loss, though their numbers were considerable. A little beneath the Burgh stands the Castle of Sanquhar a stately Edifice strongly built, which belonged formerly to the Lord Sanquhar now E. of Drumfreiss, but now the said Castle with all the lands of the Parish on the North side of the River except the Burrowlands and the greatest part of the lands upon the Southside doth belong in property to the D. of Queensberry except the Barony of

Elleock, whereunto the Duke is Superiour. It belongs to the <sup>219.</sup> E. of Carnwath, in property, having the Mansionplace Elleock situate in the bounds of it, a goodly Fabrick formerly the Dwelling place of the Barons of Dalyell, of which the Earles of Carnwath are descended. This part of the Parish is exceedingly well stored with Wood, but now of late by the cutting down of a great part of it, for the Lead Mines of Hopetown in Clidesdale and not parking of it afterwards, it is much decayed and probably will decay more, if after the cutting of it, it be not more carefully inclosed for the future. In this Parish of Sanquhar is Coal on both sides of the River, and on the Northside of the Parish near to Clidesdale, there is a Lead Mine of excellent fine Lead in a place pertaining to the D. of Queensberry, called Cumlock, which was begun to be wrought out in the Reign of K. James the fifth, and afterward intermitted but of late hath begun to be wrought and is now a working out. Near to the Castle of Sanquhar there are several Parks on both sides of the River, one whereof is well stored with Deer and other Animals that are for pleasure, and others for Cattle and these that are for profit, both are like to abound further in time.

One remarkable particular is not to be here omitted. In the Year 1653, when the Loyal Party did arise in Arms against the English in the West & North Highlands some Noblemen and Loyall Gentlemen with others were forward to repair to them with such Parties as they could make, which the English with marvelous diligence night and day did bestir themselves to impede by making their troupes of Horse & Dragoons, to pursue the Loyal Party in all places, that they might not come to such a considerable number as was designed. It happened one night that one Captain Mason Commander of a Troup of Dragoons, that came from Carlisle in England, <sup>220.</sup> marching through the town of Sanquhar in the night was in the town of Sanquhar, encountred by one Captain Palmer Commander of a Troup of Horse that came from Air marching Eastward, and meeting at the townhouse or Tolboth, one David Veitch brother to the Laird of Dawick in Tweddale and one of the Loyall Party being Prisoner in Irons by the English, did arise and came to the Window at their meeting,

and cried out that they should fight valiantly for K. Charles, Wherethrough they taking each other for the Loyall Party, did begin a brisk fight, which continued for a while, till the Dragoons having spent their shot and finding the Horsemen to be too strong for them, did give ground, but yet retired in some order toward the Castle of Sanquhar being hotly pursued by the Troup through the whole town above a quarter of a mile till they came to the Castle, where both Parties did to their mutual grief become sensible of their mistake. In this skirmish there were several killed on both sides, and Captain Palmer himself dangerously wounded, with many more wounded in each Troup, who did peaceably dwell together afterward for a time, untill their wounds were cured in Sanquhar Castle.

3. The third Parish is Kirkbride lying also on both sides of the River, as the two forementioned. It is divided from Sanquhar on the West part of it by the impetuous Rivulet Menock on the North side, and by the Burn or Rivulet of on the South side of Nith, and by another Rivulet or Burn called Enterkin it is divided from the Parish of Dursdeer on the Eastside; as also on the South side it is divided from the same Parish of Dursdeer; and on the North side from the Parish of Crawford Lindsay in Clidesdale by the Hills at Enterkin-head. It is but a little Parish, of a small Rent and 221. few Inhabitants. The Church is but a little Fabrick at the donation of the D. of Queensberry. The Church is denominate from St. Brigid. Here dwelt formerly the Lairds of Cosshowgell of the name of Douglass and the Lairds of MackMath of Ahensow. But these Linages being now extinct, the whole Parish pertains to the D. of Queensberry. There is one Monument in the Church, of one John of Rockell with this Inscription, *Hic situs est Joannes de Rockell Jurisconsultus Ecclesix*. In the Rivulets that flow down from the Hills of this Parish, is great store of Trouts, which though they fal down by great precipices and Rocks in the way to the river, so that they cannot get up again, yet in the upper ground, there is plenty of them, that they yearly spawn great numbers.

4. The fourth Parish is that of Dursdeer lying upon both

sides of the River Nith, as the three former. It is divided on the Westside by Enterkin burn, as is said, on the Northside of Nith, and on the Southside from Penpont; on the Southside of Nith by a burn called                      on the Eastside from Penpont also by the Tibbers burn, otherwise called the Park burn, near to Drumlanrig; and on the Northside of Nith, it is divided from the Parish of Morton on the Northeastsides by the Water of Carren, and on the Northwestside from Crawford Lindsay in Clidesdale by the hill of Loders and others places Eastward. On the Northside of this Parish stands the Mansion place of Dalvine formerly belonging to a Linage of the name of Douglass descended from the E. of Douglass. But that Linage being now extinct, the whole Interest of that family pertains to the D. of Queensberry. The House is situate in a Pass betwixt two Hills near to Crawford Moor. Upon the Northside of which Pass lyeth the lands of the Lairdship of Castlehill, whereon stands the Castle of Dursdeer upon another Pass called the Well-path that leadeth to Crawford moor, which formerly pertained to the Steuarts of Dursdeer, & of late to the Meinziesses of Castlehill in property the Barons of Rothesay of the name of Stewart having till of late retained the Superiority of it: but now all doth pertain to the D. of Queensberry. This <sup>222.</sup> Castle hath been an indifferent Strong Hold and was in the days of K. Edward Lang Shanks possessed by a Garison of the English for keeping that Pass & afterward in the Reign of Edward of Carnarven his son taken in by Roger Kirkpatrick. It is now ruined and but a small part of it remaining.

Near to this Castle stands the Parish Church of Dursdeer, where the Douglasses of the family of Queensberry have been interred, as also these of the name of Meinziez that formerly had interest in this Parish, and whereof some yet have. The Church is an indifferent Fabrick situate in a little village called Dursdeer, which of old did hold of the Archbishop of Glasgow, but the few of it not being considerable, was disposed by Archbishop Spotswood to the Ministers of Dursdeer who were Subchanter of the Diocese of Glasgow and Members of the Chapter. The Church is at the Presentation of the D. of Queensberry. About a mile or somewhat more is the



Barony and Place of Enock, which did formerly belong to the Meinziesses of Weems, and of late to another succession of that name. The whole Parish of Dursdeer, excepting this Barony of Enock, on both sides of the River pertains to the D. of Queensberry. Over against Enock near to the Bridge of Drumlanrig is situate the Castle of Drumlanrig, a princely and pleasant Habitation and like to be more so, being the Dwelling place of the D. of Queensberry. the Original, Rise and Steps of Ascent of which Family is to be given in by his Grace's direction with his other Titles and Heraldry. Above the Castle of Drumlanrig lyeth the Barony of Drumlanrig about three miles up the River on the Southside where it marcheth with that part of the Parish of Kirkbride.

223. 5. The fifth Parish in the Presbytery of Penpont is the Parish of Penpont itself divided on the Eastside from the Parish of Keir by the River Scarr, and on the South and South West side from the Parish of Tinron, on the North side it is divided from Dursdeer by a little Rivulet called the Park burn or Tibbers Burn; on the North West side it reaches as far as Sanquhar and above, & lyeth in lenth 10 miles and above from the Church, which stands at the East end of the Parish. This Parish marcheth with the Parishes of Dursdeer Kirkbride and some parts of Sanquhar; and on the North east side, it is divided by the River of Nith from the Parish of Morton on the North side of Nith. It is denominate Penpont from a Penny payed at this place for building and upholding of a Wooden Bridge over Nith betwixt Penpont and Morton long since ruined near to a Village called Thornhill. At this Church is the Seat of the Presbytery. On the Northside of this Parish near to Drumlanrig is the Castle of Tibbers formerly a Strong Hold, but now totally ruined, there being no place for habitation in or near it. By whom it was built or by whom it was ruined, it is not certain. It hath been situate in a Promontory, reaching out to a narrow point compassed about with the River Nith and upon high ground. It hath had very strong Outworks upon the south part of it. Tradition also holds it out, that it was garisoned by the English in the time of Langshanks and taken by Wallace who by burning a Kill

drew the Garison out of the Castle for stopping of the fire, and then entred in with a Party that lay in ambush near it, and possessed it himself. But whether the Castle was burned by him at that time, is uncertain; this is certain that it is now overgrown with thickets. Here was also a Barony called Ahengashall, that did belong to a family of the name of Maitland, now extinct. Now the whole Parish, except a few small Heritages, belongs to the D. of Queensberry. the most considerable of which is the Lairdship of Eccles belonging to a Linage of the name of Maitland. The rest of the Heritages are but small Interests. In the bounds of this land of Eccles there is a Loch called the Dowloch, of old resorted unto with much superstition, as medicinal both for men and beasts and that with such ceremonies as are shrewdly suspected to have<sup>224.</sup> been begun with Witchcraft; and increased afterward by magical directions for bringing of a Cloth or somewhat that did relate to the bodies of men and women and a Shackle or Teather belonging to a Cow or Horse; and these being cast into the Loch, if they did float, it was taken for a good Omen of recovery and a part of water carried to the Patient, though to remote places, without saluting or speaking to any they met by the way. But if they did sink, the recovery of the party was hopeless. This practice was of late much curbed and restrained: but since the discovery of many medicinal fountains near to the place, the vulgar holding that it may be as medicinal as these are, at this time begin to reassume their former practice.

6. Next to this Parish of Penpont lyeth the Parish of Tinron divided on the Northside of it from Penpont by a little River called Scarr & on the Eastside by the Water of Chinnell, & on the Southside by a ridge of Hills running to the West end of it, where it marcheth with Galloway. This Parish is divided into two parts by a little River called Chinnell, which springs out of a Hill in Galloway and runs through this Parish, and at the East end of it where it runneth into Scarr, and both are called Scarr, Chinnell loseth its name. The D. of Queensberry hath the Superiority of this Parish, and a considerable part also of it in property. The rest of it pertains to severall Gentlemen, as Mackqueystoun and severall

other Tenements to the Laird Wilson of Croglie on the Southside of Chinnell, Peinyirie and other Tenements to a Gentleman of the name of Douglass descended of the Family of Drumlanrig, on the Northside; thirdly Istenhouse on the Southside, and Killwarron on the Northside of Chinnell, both pertaining to John Douglass of Istenhouse.

225. Near to Istenhouse on the Northside of Chinnell stands the Kirk of Tinron builded near to the Barony of Aird pertaining to Sir Robert Grierson of Lagg Knight, in the bounds of which Barony is the steep hill called the Dune of Tinron of a considerable height, upon the top of which there hath been some habitation or Fort as is perceived by the Ruines and Outworks of it; but it is not known by whom it was erected and inhabited whether by the Romans or by the Scots and Picts. There have been in ancient times on all hands of it very thick Woods and great about that place, which made it the more inaccessible, unto which K. Robert Bruce is said to have been conducted by Roger Kirkpatrick of Closburn, after they had killed the Cumin at Drumfreiss, which is 9 miles from this place, whereabout it is probable that he did abide for some time thereafter. And it is reported, that during his abode there, he did often divert to a poor man's Cottage named Brounrig, situate in a small parcell of stony ground incompassed with thick Woods where he was content sometimes with such mean accommodation as the place could afford. The poor man's wife being advised to petition the King for somewhat was so modest in her desires, that she sought no more, but security for the Croft in her Husbands possession and a liberty of pasturage for a very few Cattle of different kinds on the Hill, and the rest of the bounds. Of which Priviledge that ancient family by the injury of time, hath a long time been & is now deprived: but the Croft continues in the possession of the Heirs and successours lineally descended of this Brounrig and his wife, so that this family being more ancient then rich, doth yet continue in the name, and as they say, retains the old Charter.

7. The next to the Parish of Tinron, is the Parish of Glencarne bounded on the northside with a ridge of Hills, which divides it from Tinron. On the Westside it is divided from some

places of the Parishes of Dalry & Carsfairn in Galloway, on the South side with a part of the Parish of Dinscore, and on the South West side by a part of the Parish of Balmaclellan in Galloway & on the Northeast side by a Ridge of Mountains which divides it from the Parish of Kire.

This Parish was of old a Mensal Kirk of the Bishoprick of <sup>226.</sup> Glasgow, but now at the donation of the D. of Queensberry who is the Superiour to the lands of it. This Parish is large and lyeth on both sides of a little River called Kairn, whence it hath its denomination which runneth from 3 several Fountains in Galloway, the first on the Southside called Castlefairn Water, the second in the middle called Craigdaroch Water, upon the brink of which stands the House of Craigdarroch Ferguson: the third Rivulet on the Northside is called Dowhat Water where stands the Dwelling place of a lineage of the name of McGachen descended of one McGachen a private Standart bearer in the Bruces Wars & doth yet continue in the name. These 3 Rivulets having run each of them severall miles, do all three meet in one Water at Moniaive a Burgh of Barony having an usefull weekly Mercat and some Fairs. These three Rivulets conjoined make the River Kairn. The Parish by the running of the Water running six miles downwards is divided into two parts one in each side, and thereafter running on the East part of it. it divides Glenkairn from Dinscore and thereafter running by the Parish of Holywood, it divides Nidsdale from Galloway and continueth its course by the Parishes of Irongray and Tereggilis in Galloway, till it come to the Colledge of Lincluden, where it falls in with Nith. A little beneath Moniaive in this Parish stands the Church of Glencarne, situate at the foot of an high Hill called the Dune of Shankcastle, near to which also stands the Castle of Glencarne anciently the Dwelling place of the noble Family of the Cunighames Earles of Glencarne who being Superiour to the whole Parish, excepting a Barony or two, did divide the Property amongst his Jackmen for the greater part of it, into several Tenements, bearing the name of the first Occupants, <sup>227.</sup> which denominations, though the lands now be possessed by these of other names, yet they do still retain as at first as Blackstown, Inglistown, Crawfordtown, Stewartown, Gilmores-



town, Gordonstown, Garriokstown and some others more And it is probable that other places had the like denomination, though now changed. At the Disposition of the Superiority of this Parish, the Earle of Glencarne did reserve the Superiority of one Room called Nether Kirkcudbright, which he yet retains, and at the Disposition of his own Property a little Know near the Castle of Glencarne, which Castle with a considerable part of the Parish doth now pertain to Robert Laurie of Maxeltoun Baron of Straith which makes him capable of electing and being elected a Commissioner for the Parliament.

Near to this Castle in the year 1651 When King Charles the Second had marched with his Army to England, the Loyal Nobility and Gentry of Nidsdale and Annandale being met for hasting out Recruits of Horse and Foot for His Majesties service, were assaulted by an English Commander one Major Scot son to the famous Brewers Clerk Thomas Scot a stickling Member of the Rump-Parliam: of England and one of the Regicides, who after His Maties Restitution, did receive the reward of a bold & bloody Traitour. Albeit this Major Scot was Commander of fourteen score of experienced Horsemen, yet the Noblemen and Gentlemen did resolve valiantly to abide their charge, though much inferior in number, and by a Party of 36 or 40 Horse commanded by Ro<sup>t</sup> Fergusson of Craigdarroch, the English forlorn-hope being a greater number was stoutly and resolutely charged, broken and beaten into their Body with the loss of severall of the English, & none of his Party. Thereafter the Noblemen & Gentlemen  
 228. being led by Sir John Charteris of Ampfeld Knight, did charge the Body of the English, when it came up: but being inferiour in number and many of their Souldiers being not weel trained, they were forced to retire. The Master of Herris then, and of late the Earle of Nidsdale was wounded by a shot in the arm, and though some of the English, yet none of the Loyal Party were killed in the Fight, but some were killed in the Retreat, who being denied Quarters because they could not instruct themselves to be Commissioneate Officers or listed Souldiers, were barbarously murdered, among which a young Gentleman R<sup>t</sup> Maxwell of Tinnell was one.

Some others of Quality being and avouing themselves souldiers had Quarter granted them, and were taken prisoners.

On the Southside of Nith lyeth the Parish of Kire, of old a Pendicle of the Abbacy and a part of the Parish of Holywood, & since the Reformation, served by a Substitute, who supplied both places in the absense of the Minister, but lately divided from it & erected in a Parish by itself, and afterwards annexed to the Presbytery of Penpont. This Parish is divided from Tinron and Penpont upon the West part of it, by the Waters of Chinnell and Scarr & on the South part by a ridge of Mountains from Glencarne, and on the Northside by the Rivers of Scarr & Nith from the Parish of Dalgarno, and on the East from the Parish of Dinscore by Alintoun Burn. It is a place fertile for Corns and Cattell and richly stored with Wood. The upper part of it belongs to John Grierson of Kepinoch and some Tenements that pertain to the Earle of Nithsdale. The nether part of it pertains to John Grierson of Berjarge and several other Heritours. Here is a deep Loch called the Loch of Kilbread in a place pertaining to the Laird of Lagg, but the water is not reputed medicinal.

9. Ninthly there is the Parish of Morton belonging of old <sup>229.</sup> to the noble Earles of Morton, and from which they have their Title; a small Parish, sometimes one of the Churches of Kelso, but now at the presentation of the Duke of Queensberry. It is on the North west side divided from Dursdeer by the Water of Carren, on the Westside by the River of Nith from the Parish of Penpont, on the South and southeast side from the Parish of Dalgarno and Closeburn by the Water of Campell, and on the East and Northeast side from Crawford Lindsay in Clidesdale. The whole Parish, excepting two small Tenements pertains to the D. of Queensberry. On the south side of this Parish near to a little Village called Thornhill, there is erected a Burgh of Regality called New Dalgarno, where there is a weekly Mercat & four Fairs in the year; at which Burgh is the publick Meeting place for Jurisdiction of the Regality of Drumlanrig called the Regality of New Dalgarno, where Criminal and Civil Courts are holden by the Baillie of the Regality as occasion requires. The Parish Church by recommendation from the Archbishop of Glasgow,

after a Perambulation, for many weighty reasons is recommended to be erected at or near this place. On the Northside of this Parish stands the old Castle of Morton which of old hath been a very Strong Hold: but it is not certainly known by whom it was built at first. It was kept by Sir Tho. Randolph E. of Murray in the Minority of David Bruce, and afterwards suffered to go to Ruine by the Earles of Morton, who had other Castles to take care of. Near to this Castle there was a Park built by Sir Thomas Randolph on the face of a very great and high Hill so artificially, that by the advantage of the Hill, all wild Beasts, such as Deer, Harts and Roes and Hares, did easily leap in, but could not get out again; and if any other Cattle, such as Cows Sheep or Goats, did voluntarily leap in, or were forced to it, it is doubted if their Owners were permitted to get them out again.

230. 10. Tenthly, there are the united Parishes of Dalgarno and Closburn both divided on the West and North West side from the Parish of Closburn by the Rivulet of Campell and on the South and Southeast side from the Parish of Kirkmahoe, and on the North and Northeastsides by the Rivulet of Brain springing out of Queensberry Hill, a great Hill, from whence the Duke hath his Title, which conjoining with another Rivulet called Keeple makes the Water of Ay, which divides from the Parish of Kirkmichael. In the upper part of it; that part of Dalgarno called Keeple Water, consists of four Rooms, pertaining to the Duke of Queensberry, more fertile for Cattel then for Corns. Below that part of Dalgarno there lyeth an eight pound Land in the Parish of Closburn pertaining to the D. of Queensberry and a five pound Land belonging to the Laird of Cowhill and a fourty shilling Land belonging to Captain John Alison Baillie of the Regality of Drumlanrig; all divided from Kirkmichael by the Water of Ay. A part of the Parish of Dalgarno, lying along the river Nith hath in it the lands of Templeland and Kirkland of Dalgarno, where the Kirk stands now ruined; and below is the five pound Land of Schaws, the ten merk land of Kirkpatrick and Liftingstone, where stands the Chappel of Kilpatrick, called Cella Patricii; next unto which down the River is a ten pound Land pertaining to the Baron of Closburn, where hath been a Chappel and

a Trench for keeping of a Pass at that place, which ten pound Land marches with the lands of Clawghries pertaining to John Johnston, and the Lands of Over & Nether Algirth, which are the utmost extent of Dalgarno. On the North West side of Cloburn and Dalgarno, there is an eight pound Land of Newtown, pertaining in property to Sir Robert Dalyell of Glenay, where is an excellent Quarry of Freestone, above which is the ten pound Land of Ahenleck pertaining to the Laird of Cloburn partly for Corn and partly for pasturage.

11. Lastly there is the Parish of Cloburn lying in the midst of Dalgarno. In that part of Cloburn towards the Water of Ay, by which it is Incompassed, is a fourty pound Land pertaining to Thomas Kirkpatrick of Cloburn an ancient family <sup>231</sup> and Chef of that Name, having a Charter from Alexander K. of Scots, granted to Ivon Kirkpatrick of the Lands and Barony of Cloburn, before Witnesses. Bondington Cancellario, Rogero de Quency, Waltero filio Alani Senescallo Justiciario Scotiæ, Joanne de Maunswell Camerario, Rogero Avenell, David Marescallo, Thoma filio Hamil: <sup>1</sup> David de Lyndsay, Rogero filio Glay, Roberto de Menyers, Dated at Edr. the fifteenth of August and of the said Kings Reign the eighteenth Year. Moreover the said Laird for his Arms & Ensign Armorial bears Argent a St. Andrew's Cross Azure, on a Sheaf of the second three cushions. Or above the shield an Helmet befitting his degree Mantled Geuls doubled Argent. Next in place on a Torse for his Crest, a Hand holding a Dagger distilling drops of blood proper, the Motto in an Escrole, I make sure, which Crest and Motto was given by Robert the Bruce K. of Scots to Roger Kirkpatrick upon his killing of the Cumin at the Chappel of Drumfreiss. This Parish of old was a Pendicle of the Abbacy of Kelso, but now is annexed to the Bishoprick of Galloway, as Dalgarno is to Edr. but the Laird of Cloburn is Patron to both Churches United.

Upon the Westside of this Parish, Cloburn Church is situate a litle Fabrick but well built, near unto which is the Loch of Cloburn, upon the East side whereof stands the

<sup>1</sup> 'Ranulfs' [interlined].



Dwelling house of the Lairds of Closburn, which hath been a considerable strength of old, by bringing the Loch of Closburn about it, whence it is called Closburn because inclosed with Water or Burn. This Loch is of great deepness and was measured on the Ice eight Acres in the midst of a spacious Bog. The fish of this Loch are for the most part Eels with some great Pikes, who for lack of food eat up all the young. At the side of this Loch there is of late discovered a fountain of Medicinal Waters, which as Moffet Well, doth gild silver, <sup>232.</sup> and produce the other effects thereof. It is esteemed in dry weather stronger then Moffet Well, by reason of the greater abundance of sulphur *putridum sal ammoniacum*, and Antimony there, so that one cannot digg in a great part of the Bog, but the Water such a tang as the Well. A further Account of it is left to the Physicians when they shall have the Conveniency to make a triall of it. There is also within a mile of Closburn House another Loch called Loch Atrick, but little remarkable about it. About the Place of Closburn & in other places of the Barony is some store of Oakwood. There is here also two great Kairns, the one in the Moorfield far from Stones, the other in the Infeild near unto them, whence the bounds is called Ahenkairn, which surely are two ancient Monuments although an account of them cannot be given.

Nithsdale is divided into two Wards or Divisions. The Upper Ward consisteth of eleven Parishes of the Classis or Presbytery of Penpont, which by the Union of two of them viz: Dalgarno & Closburn of old, and by the late Annexation of Kirkconnall to Sanquhar do now make nine Parishes: but notwithstanding the Union and Annexation foresaid every Parish is described here by itself.

## RANFREWSHIRE.

1. This shire lying next to Clidesdale partaketh of its soil, that part of it which lyeth near Clide being both pleasant & fertile without Mountains, but having many pretty little Rises of the ground, from which there are many fair Prospects both of the greater part of this Shire and of the Nether Ward of Clidesdale and the Lennax. The Confines of the shire to the

South and Southwest & West bordering on a part of Clidesdale Cunighame and the mouth of Clide are more barren, hilly and moorish. The whole of it is stored with Grass and Corn sufficient to serve its own Inhabitants except about Greenock where there is a great confluence of people for the Herring Fishing in its season. The Herring, though it may more properly belong to the River of Clide, then to any shire lying on its shore, yet of all the shires that border on Clide this may most claim a right unto it. The Inhabitants hereof<sup>233.</sup> at Greenock, Gurock, Innerkip, and Newark, making the greatest number of fishers. The Fishing of Herrings on all accounts hath for many years been the most noted of any in Scotland or about it. the Fish that enter this Firth of Clide, being larger, fairer, firmer, of a better tast, and taking better with the salt than any other, and more valued both fresh and salted, at home and abroad then any other the Kingdom affords, the number likewise being incredibly great, considering in how narrow a Firth they contain themselves. There have been reckoned 2500 Lost which comes to 3750 Tun of Herrings made and salted and exported in a year, beside vast quantities which are consumed within the Countrey. Thir Herrings (when the Take of them is good, as hath been many years together) being the daily food of all the shires adjacent, especially in Harvest time; the Fishers themselves may some years be reckoned to consume 1400 Tun by their own eating. Thir Herrings come together, as if they were under some Government of their own, and swim with a great deal of Order, as an Army marching in Battel Aray. They enter the Firth of Clide from the Mule of Kintyre yearly sometime in June or July. When they first enter, they frequently come alongst the Coast of Argile, and enter the Lochs, and take some time before they settle their principal residence. They come so throng, that they are not only visible to the Fishers, but in calm Weather, they will swell and move the very Ocean. They have sometime found them on the coast of Galloway and Carrick about Ballantrae, but more frequently in the Lochs on Argile side, and with Clide at Greenock and as far up as Armour, Some of them coming to the Freshes near Dumbarton and are taken in the Yairs: but these are<sup>234.</sup>

not reckoned the best for salting. When the Shole of Herrings enters the firth, the Fishers gather in such number, that five or six hundred Boats have been seen together in one place at the Take, and all these have been seen to lode their Boats in a day or two. The Herrings will sometime continue till Dec<sup>r</sup> and January from June or July. The Chief time is in July and Harvest Quarter for fishing and making. The Royall Company for fishing did seat their Trade here, and built an house at Greenock for that effect.

2. The most noted peculiar Rarity this Shire affords is that of Pearls found in Water of White Cart about Paslay and above it for three miles. Though it be not that considerable that the Proprietor of the Land & Land adjacent claims an Interest for them, but every person hath liberty to search for them, yet Pearls are not only frequently here found, but of such a fineness and magnitude as may be compared with any, except what the Indies affords, and they are transported to other Countreys in good parcells so that Tavernier the great French Jeweller in his Travells to the East Indies, taketh notice of them. They are found at the bottom of the Water in a Fishes shell larger then that of the Muscle. The Fishing is most in the summer time.

3. There are no Forrests at present in this Shire, formerly there was a Forrest about Paslay on the South and Southeast of it; and another of the Ferinneis adjacent thereto, as the account about the 1200 testify. The Countrey is well stored with Woods, every Gentleman almost having some in his own bounds.

235. The Nobility and Gentry are beginning to inclose and impark some of their ground especially with stone Dikes particularly the Earl of Dundonald, where he hath plenty of Fallow-Deer.

The Countrey is well stored with Springs, not a Countrey house wanting them at its door, one whereof in the Lands of Newyairds near Paslay is observable, for that it's seen to ebb & flow with the Tide, though it be on a far higher ground than any place, where the Tide comes, and half a mile from the nearest place of the Water of Cart, where the Tide comes.

The Countrey is very well watered with Rivers, though the

narrowness of the Countrey doth not allow any long Course to swell themselves navigable. There are chiefly three, all which have their rises on the Confines of the shire, and do mix themselves together at their entry into Clide within the Shire likewise viz. the two Carts and Greiff. The Carts are distinguished by their colours into White and Black. White Cart hath its rise out of these Moors which ly betwixt Eglishame in this Shire & Evandale and Kilbride in Clidesdale, from thence it runneth Northward and in many places is the Border betwixt the Shires, untill it comes within two miles of Glasgow; there it turneth Westward, untill it comes to Paslay; whence to Inchinan Northward where it both mixeth with the two others and entereth Clide. The Tide floweth up Clide and entereth this River as far up as the Bridge of Paslay. <sup>236.</sup> The Tide is reckoned to flow about three foot at Paslay, but all fresh. This River all alongst affords many pleasant seats of Houses for the Nobility and Gentry. The Black Cart taketh its rise out of Lochquhinnoch Loch, at the mouth of which it is many times not fordable. It runneth a straight Course Eastward: for the most part it runneth dead & low and through the Mosses about Blackstoun, which maketh it Blackish. It emptieth itself into Clide near Inchinan, where it joyneth itself to the other. Griff riseth out of the Northwest places of this Shire in Kilmacom Parish and runneth South & Southeast, untill it mixeth itself with the other in the lower Countrey. All the three are increased by several Waters and Burns or Rivulets not worthy the noticing. This Griff gave name to the Northerly part of the Shire, which was called Strath Griff about the year 1180 but that name is now out of use & only preserved in the Gentries Charters.

There are no considerable Lochs, but one, Lochquhinnoch: it's about 4 miles in length, & 2 in breadth. Many Rivulets run into it. On the West end it bordereth this Shire and Cunighame, where it receiveth a Rivulet, which cometh out of Kilburny Loch in Cunighame, from which it's distant about 2 miles. Round this Loch, there are severall Seats of Houses and many pleasant Meadows. It's replenished with Fish such as Pikes, Peaches and Eels. In the midst of this Loch there is an old Tower called the Peel belonging to the Lord



237. Sempill, to which they used to fly formerly in times of the Feuds or of Wars. We never hear that it was besieged, being a full mile from all sides. There are likewise some lesser Lochs in the Mearnes and Eglishame Moors, where are plenty of fish and a little one, called Loch Libo in Neilstoun, where there is plenty of fish and fowl for diverse sorts of game.

4. All the Roads, Bays and Ports in this Shire are on the River Clide. From the West end of the Shire, the firth of Clide beginneth to narrow itself, it being at the Cloch Stane, about 4 miles in breadth, within which there are almost everywhere good riding for ships. The first Bay that openeth is that of Innerkip without the Cloch, where there is a good Fisher town. Then more Easterly and inward openeth a fair Bay, at the West end whereof stands Gurock, where is a good Road and Harbour lately built by Walter Gibson, and a Village building. Next inward stands Greenock the place of best account on all this Coast this being the principal Harbour to all the Glasgow Merchants and a good Road, and a well built Town, and the chieff seat of Herring Fishing: here the Royall Company did build ane house, and made it the seat of their Trade. To this adjoyneth Crawfords dykes and hath the same trade with that of Greenock, where good Houses are fast building. Further and a little more southward lyeth Newark where the Town of Glasgow have built a good Port and called it Port Glasgow and a large publick House, & there is a village building. Here is the Custome house for all this Coast, and the Town of Glasgow of late oblige their

238. Merchants to lode and unlode here. Above Newark the River of Clide narroweth being a miles breadth over against Dumbarton, above which ships of burden do not come & the River fresheth when the Tide is out. But Barks and Boats of burden come up Clide to Glasgow all alongst the Coast of this shire and so come to Ranfrew Town. The Tide floweth up two or three miles both the Carts and Griff, whereby Boats come to Paslay with Highland Timber and Slates 6000 in a Boat; Fish of all sorts & return with Coals and Lime. The Coast all alongst is very safe, it being very rare to hear of any Loss of Vessels within the Cloch, which is most ordinarily reckoned in the innermost mouth of Clide. The Tide at Greenock

flows 12 foot, within the Harbour at Gurock 18 foot, at Newark 12 foot at a Spring Tide.

5. This Countrey being low, fertile & adjacent to Clidsdale, fell likewise under the Roman Arms and as I take it, did set a bound to their Conquest. The Romans never having past the Firth of Clide to Argile-shire, and the old Caledonian Wood came to the border of this Shire, it having reached the Lennox or Dumbarten Shire on this hand, as it did Stirling Shire and to Forth on the other hand. But that the Romans came this length, is more then probable for as there are in many places from the one end of Clidesdale to the other, visible undeniable vestiges for whole miles of way together of <sup>239.</sup> an old Roman Street from Erickstone in the head of Eusdale to Mauls Mire at this end where it bordereth this Shire (called this day Watlin Street corruptly for Vitellian or Vitellius Street) so there are continued vestiges of their being in this shire : for at Pasley there is a large Roman Camp to be seen. The Prætorium or Innermost part of the Camp is on the West end of a rising ground or little Hill called Oakshawhead ; on the southeast descent of which Hill standeth the Town of Paslay. The Prætorium is not very large, but hath been well fortified with three Foussees and Dikes of Earth, which must have been large, when to this day their vestiges are so great, that men on horseback will not see over them. The Camp itself hath been great and large, it comprehending the whole Hill. There are vestiges on the Northside of the Foussees and Dike whereby it appears that the Camp reached to the River of Cart. On the Northside, the Dike goeth amongst the foot of the Hill and if we allow it to have gone so far on the other side, it hath enclosed all the space of ground on which the Town of Paslay stands and it may be Judged to be about a mile in compass. Its situation was both strong and pleasant overlooking the whole Countrey. I have not heard that any have been so curious as to digg the ground into the Prætorium, but when they tread upon it, it gives a sound, as if it were hollow below, where belike there are some of their Vaults. Near to this Camp, about a quarter of a mile stand two other Rises, or little Hills, the one to the West, the other to the <sup>240.</sup> South which with this makes almost a triangular form, where

have been stations for the outter Guards. The Vestiges of them appear, and make them a little larger then the Prætorium of the other Camp of the same forme without any other fortification then a single Fossee and Dike. At Langside there is the appearance of an old Camp on the top of the Hill, where was fought that Memorable Battel betwixt Queen Mary and Regent Murray 1567.

6. Midway betwixt Pasley and Ranfrew at the Knock is a high Cross standing, but no Inscription is legible. Tradition hath handed it down that it was erected on this occasion. Marjorie Bruce daughter of K. Robert Bruce, & Wife to Walter the great Stewart of Scotland, at that time Lord of all this Countrey, was hunting at this place and got a fall, and she being big with child of her son Robert afterward K. Robert the Second, fell in labour and there died in the field, and as Tradition will have it, the Child was a Cæsar cut out of his Mother's Womb, and had his eye touched by the Chirurgeon, from which he was called King Blear-eye and his Mother is by the Tradition called Queen Blear-eye, though she was never Queen, and this Cross is called Queen Blear-eyes Cross. This fell out about the year 1317, and she is buried at Paslay.

7. The Inhabitants of this Shire, both Nobility, Gentry and Commons, are generally frugall, love to keep at home. The  
241. Gentry are given to all manly sports as Hunting, Hawking, and Gunning, are friendly among themselves, & their families in constant Affinity by Marriages one with another.

8. In relation to the Church, this Shire under Popery was & is still within the Diocese of Glasgow and in the time of Presbytery, made up a Presbytery or Class, in which are 15 Parish Churches, each Church being well provided with a Manse and Benefice for one Minister, and Paslay for two. The Parishes are Egglishame, Neilstoun, Mearns, Eastwood, Ranfrew, Pasley, Inchinan, Lochquhinnoch, Kilbarchan, Killellan Howstoun, Erskin, Kilmacolm, Greenock and Innerkip. The Churches are well built, yet none of them worth the noticing except that of Paslay.

In the time of Popery there were no Monasteries except Paslay, which was a very considerable Abbacy. Our Historians

have generally reckoned it to have been founded by Alex<sup>r</sup> the great Steward about the Year 1260. But they have been in a great Mistake. The Charter of the Foundation being extant runs thus, *Walterus filius Alani Dapifer Regis Scotiæ pro anima Regis David, et Regis Henrici et Comitis Henrici et pro salute corporis et animæ Regis Malcolmi* gives such lands to 13 Monks, who were to be *Ordinis fratrum de Wenloch, Ordinis Monachorum Cluniacensium*. By which it appears to have been founded by Walter the Second great Steward or *Dapifer Regis Malcolmi Quarti* called the Maiden about the year 1160. This Abbacy was so augmented by the Great Stewards, that the Teynds of the greater part of this Shire and <sup>242.</sup> of Kyle belonged to it. The Earles of Lennox and the Lords of the Isles were great Benefactors to it. There were 32 Churches under its Patronage to wit Innerweek in Lothian, Lidgert Wood in the Merse, Rutherglen & Cathcart in Clidesdale, Riccartoun, Craigie, Dundonald, Monkton, St Evox, Prestick, Affleck, the Chappel of Closbie in Kyle, Largs in Cunighame, Cumray in Boot, Kilpatrick in Lennox, Rosneth, Kilcolmanell, Kilkinan, and Kilkerran in Argile Shire, Mearns, Eastwood, Neilstoun, Paslay, Kilbarchan, Lochquhinnoch, Killellane, Houston, Kilmacolm, Innerkip and Greenock in this Shire. The Abbacy was well built, fair and large, and pleasantly seated on the River Cart in a good soyl. The Buildings are yet remaining and shew forth much of the magnificence and luxury of that Religion. There was a stately Cross Church built and a steeple, which was one of the greatest in the Kingdom: but about 100 years ago, the steeple fell with its own Weight: and with it the Quire of the Church. The Chancel only is now standing and is a very fair Building, and is indeed one of the most convenient and large Houses for hearing that can be. The Inscription on the Porch tells us that this Church was built 1400. The Abbey and Church with all its fair Gardens and Orchards and a little Park for Fallow Deer are enclosed within one of the Fairest Walls, not in this Kingdom only, but in Europe and perhaps in the World. It is altogether built on both sides, of large squared <sup>243.</sup> Freestone, so well that there is no appearance of Lime in the Wall, and it will be a full mile about and of a great height:



It was the Work of many Years. The Inscriptions upon it, shew it to have been begun by Schaw Abbot here about 1483.

The Monks of this Abbacy wrote a Chronicle, which was continued by them, the Authentick Copy whereof perished, when the Abbey of Halyrood house was burned during the English Usurpation, it being then in the Kings Bibliothek : but there are some Copies and Compendis of it. There is extant a Register of all the Charters granted to the Abbacy, which together with the Charters themselves are preserved. After the Reformation, this Abbacy was given to Lord Claud Hamilton third son to James D. of Chatterault, whose posterity sold it to the E. of Dundonald who is present Owner of it. This Abbacy was honoured by being the Burial-place of K. Robert the Second and of his Mother Marjorie Bruce, whose Gravestone is to be seen cut out in the shape of a Woman.

9. There is no Shire in Scotland of its bounds, where more Noble Families have been both of the greatest Nobility and Gentry.

Of the Nobility this Shire may justly claim to have been the seat of the Noble Family of the Stewarts who were Lords of this Countrey. And this Shire was then Baronia de Ranfrew, and the Steward of Scotland was Baro de Ranfrew. Our Historians have much erred in the Genealogy of this Noble Family which is very evident by the Charters extant in the Abbacy of Paslay, where we find the Line of the Family thus Bancho, &c,

### DESCRIPTION of the BURGH and OLD PRIORY of PETTINWEEM.

The Burgh of Pettinweem was at first erected in a Burgh of Regality by K. James the first in the Year 1442, thereafter confirmed by K. James the fifth, conform to a Charter under the great Seal dated at St. Andrews 24 Feb. 1540, with ample privileges, and conforme to a Charter granted by John Rule Prior of Petinweem and St. Adrians Island of May which lyeth

in the mouth of the River of Forth, relative to the saids former Charters dated 12 Feb. 1547. The Privileges of the Burgh are very amply set down, and all the Commonities, Common Moors and Mosses disposed to the Town for the common Use. And thereafter the same was by King James the Sixth erected in a Burgh Royal, which was ratified in K. Charles the first his Parliament anno 1633, by which their Privileges are fully extended as to any other Burgh Royal within the Kingdom doth appertain, with Weekly Mercats and two yearly Fairs, viz: St. Adrians Fair 3 March and St. Mary Magdalens 22 July and the bounds of the Burgh designed to be a mile be East and a mile be West the Town.

The Charters give power to elect yearly a Provost, four <sup>245.</sup> Baillies, Dean of Gild, Treasurer, and Common Councill. But the Burgh hath always been governed by four Baillies, whereof two sea-faring men, and other two Merchants, which with the Treasurer and Common Councill consisting of nineteen are yearly elected on the first Tuesday of September past memory of man.

The Burgh is well situate and built. The nether part towards the sea, lyeth along from the East to the West Havens. There is also another Haven called the Pan Haven on the West part of the Burgh. The upper part of the Town, hath a fair Street from East to West.

Near the East end thereof stands the Church well decored with a pretty Steeple, having on the Southside thereof the Tolbooth and Grammar School, and on the Northside the Cross with a Chappel dedicated to the Virgin Mary from which that Street going to the East Port is called the Mary Gate.

The Town is well watered with abundance of excellent fresh Water springing forth of Rocks in all the Vennals.

A little to the south east of the Church stands the Abbey, well built about with a stone wall. In it stands the Principall House with the Office houses built about the Close, pertaining to the Earl of Kellie as Lord of the erected Lordship of Pittinweem who hath right to the Fews, Teynds, Coal and <sup>246.</sup> Salt. This Abbey was erected by K. Alexander the first Anno 1112 and had many lands thereto belonging. The

Burghs of Pettinweem and Anstruther Wester ly within the Limits of the Old Abbacy and all the Lands lying a mile be East, and a mile be West the Town & Northward three or four miles, severall Lands ly which belong to it. There are also several Lands lying within the Sherifffdoms of Ed<sup>r</sup>, Berwick, Perth, and Forfar, with the Islands of May, which lyeth in the Mouth of the River of Forth. In this Island, there is a Chappel called St. Adrian's Chappell, where that Saint, (who was of old Patron of Pettinweem) was murdered by the Danes and buried. There is a Lighthouse upon that Island, which in the night time is very comfortable giving great light to all ships coming in and going forth of the Rivers of Forth and Tay, and all places betwixt St. Ebb's head and Redcastle, New Montrose. This Abbay was long ago erected in a Temporal Lordship, Baillerie and Regalitie with ample Priviledges and the Laird of Anstruther, who is Heritable Baillie of the said Baillerie, and his Deputes keep three Head-Courts yearly, whereunto all the Noblemen, Gentle-  
 247. men and other Heritours of Lands lying within the said Baillerie are called and answer. Courts for Civil and Criminal are kept within the Tolbooth of the Burgh of Pettinweem Head Burgh of the Regality at all occasions to which Courts the Burgh of Anstruther Wester also answers.

The Jurisdiction of the Heritable Bailie and Magistrates of the Burgh are distinct and several.

The Ensigns Armorial of this Burgh, as one of the Royal Burrows of Scotland are these—Azure in the Sea a Galley with her Oars in Action Argent; wherein is standing the figure of St. Adrian with long garments close girt, and a Mitre on his head Proper, holding in his sinister hand a Crosier Or; on the stern a Flag disveloped Argent, charged with the Royal Arms of Scotland with this motto: *Deo duce*.

At a full stream there is fourteen foot Water in the principal Harbour, where ships come in and ly.

At a Neip eight or nine foot; at no time below 8. south south west flowings or an hour & a half past twelve a Clock.

The Streik of the harbour in, is North northeast, and out South southwest.

At ingoing keep the Beacon on Larboard side a Kempstone

Bar free, and you have the Peirhead upon the Sterboard, a little within the Beacon & a large open and safe Harbour, & within the ground very good.

The Road is good, the distance an English mile, the ground sand the depth twelve or fourteen fathoms, the top of Kellielaw a little be West the Town the Meaths. There are no <sup>248.</sup> blind Rocks but one which at a Neip-tide will have fourteen foot Water above it. The Meaths of it are the top of Kellielaw to the White Rock called the Shield be West the Town, and the top of Kinraig Heuch to the Chappel of old Ardross.

The principal Harbour is called the East Haven; the other Harbour, where the Fish boats ly at the West end of the Town, is called the West Haven, where the Fishes that are taken dayly are landed, and the Herrings that are taken in the treath at the Lamb Mass time.

There is another Haven called Pan-Haven, which is convenient for Boats, where they may be furnished with good Coal and Salt.

### DESCRIPTION of STORMONT, GOURIE and the adjoyning parts of ANGUS. by J. A.

Stormont is that part of Perthshire which lyes betwixt the Rivers Tay, Yla & Erich and hath upon the North and North East, Athol and Strath Erich.

It is a mixed Countrey, the over part being Hills and that towards the Rivers plain. It aboundeth in Corn and is well planted.

There are a Tract of Lochs, which pass through the midle of this Countrey. At the Over and North part of this Countrey are three Lochs called the Cairny Lochs, or the Lochs of the Lows separate each from other by a narrow track of Land. They abound in fishes especially Pearches of an incredible bigness. And upon the North side of the East Loch, remain the ruines of an huge Building, being the Castle and Dwelling of King Robert the Second, who gave the adjacent Lands to his natural Brother, whose successours yet possess the same. From these Lochs issues a small Water called Lunin which after two miles Course Eastward falls into



the Loch of Clunie a pleasant Loch, half a mile in length, and near as much in breadth, near whose midle, upon a small Isle, stands a great and well built House belonging to .

249. Lunin passeth from this Loch, and a litle below falls into Drumylie Loch, then the former Loch, from which it passeth by the Whytlochs, being three small ones and meets Yla at Banchrie.

The considerable Families, which were in this Countrey, were Herons Lairds of Lethintie, Drumonds of Blair, Butters of Gormoch. The Families now Possessours are Messers of Adie, Steuarts of Blair, of Lows and Billend, Clunie; Blairs of Ardblair, Lethintie, Glasoloun & Pettindrich, Kynloch of Gourdie.

There are five Parishes in this Countrey.

The things remarkable are Circles of great stones, ordinarily twelve in number, whereof several in the Moor of Blair.

Betwixt the Stormont and the Braes of Gourie, upon the Rivers Tay, Yla and Erich, lyeth a pleasant and plain Countrey abounding with Corns well planted, replenished. With many Houses of Nobility and Gentry. It is a part of Strathmoor, and borders Perthshire with Angus.

The considerable families in this Countrey are Halyburton of Pitcurr, Ramsay of Bamff, Ratro of Ratro, C. Kinloch of Bandoch, Campbells of Balgersho, Crunren and Keithick, Fullertoun of Fullertoun, Murray of Arthurstone.

In this part of Perthshire are ten Parishes, one whereof is a Presbytery-seat viz: Meikle.

Monuments and remarkable things in this Countrey are the Stones at Meikle cut with several Figures and Hieroglyphicks said to be the Burial-place of Queen Vandora, who had her Dwelling three miles North upon a Hill called Barray. The Ruines yet remain, and shew it to have been a huge Building of stone. About a mile below this South, at the confluence of a little Water with the River Yla, upon a Rock are yet remaining intire several Vaults surmounted by the huge Ruines of a great and strong Castle called the Quich or Inverquich a house of King William the Second.

250. The Fishing of the Keith a litle above the Kirk of Blair, where the Water Yla falleth from a steep Rock into a narrow

Trough betwixt Rocks, not above five foot separate, in which are several deep holes, whence men standing on the brink of the Craig, with a little round net fixed to the end of a long Pole, take a Considerable number of Salmon. Above a mile above this, close on the Water Erich is the strong and strange House of Craighall or Ratro, built on a little Rock steep on all sides, and about seventy fathoms of a perpendicular height toward the Water. It is disjoyned from the adjacent grounds and entered by a Draw-Bridge.

Considerable Rivers and Waters are Yla, which comes from Glen-Yla, passeth by Airly, Ruthven and Couper, and enters Tay at Kinclavin a great Building, as the Ruines yet remaining shew, and belonging to the Kings. The Water Erich coming from Strath Erich passeth by Blair Kirk, and enters Yla at Couper-Grange.

Towns in this Countrey are Couper a Burgh of Regality, whose Heritable Lord is the Earle of Airly. Here was a great and stately Abbey now in Ruines; scarce the Vestigia with some Bases of the Pillars of the great Church remain, where is yet to be seen the Burial place of the Earles of Errol. The Abbey is seated in Angus and the Town in Perthshire, and they are disjoyned by a small Water. The Next Town to Couper is Eliot a small Mercat Village belonging to the Earle of Airly.

### An ACCOUNT of BUCHAN & what is remarkable therein.

1. All that Countrey in old time was called Buchan, which lyeth betwixt the Rivers Don and Diveran. The first emptieth itself into the Ocean at Old Aberdeen, the other at the Town of Bamff. But now generally what is betwixt Don and Ythen is called Formartin, and that only hath the name of Buchan, which is found betwixt Ythen and Diveran. The mouth of Ythen is some 12 or 14 miles more Northwards then Don, and <sup>251.</sup> from that to Diveran along the Sea Coast will be about 36 miles.

2. This Countrey is neither altogether high nor levell, but rather a mixture of both. Towards the head it is somewhat

an Hill Countrey but downward to the Sea, it is more low and plain, without any considerable Risings, except that of More-mouth a great Hill within some 6 miles of Frazerburgh. That Land which lyeth along the Sea-Coast is generally a Clay Soil, the rest for the most part is Moss and Moor, full of Bogs and Marishes.

3. At present, there is little or no planting here except about Gentlemens Dwelling-houses, and but little of that too. Yet it seems to have been otherwise of old: for not only aged persons tell of considerable Woods that have been in this Countrey; but also the stumps of the Trees are in some places still to be seen, and in all the Mosses are found Trees, which the Countrey-people digg out both for fewel and other Uses. The Trees which they find, are not all of one kind: they be some Birch, some Oak, some Elm, & some Fir. They will be many foot under ground, but when they are taken out very fresh, only wanting the Bark. In the dewy mornings when the ground will be wet with dew, it will yet be dry above where the Tree lyeth, so that the people know where to digg for them, and before hand will be able to tell what foot the Tree is of, and how many branches it hath. This seems strange indeed, but I had it reported to me for a truth by severall Gentlemen and other understanding persons among the Commons.

4. The Soil, where it is well laboured, is generally fertile enough and might be better improven, had they the benefit of Lime & such like for manuring it. About the Coast side, they make much use of Sea-ware for dunging the Land; in other places they cast Fail in one peice of ground and lay it on  
 252. another. And because they have plenty of Moss & Moor; they often car and burn them, and in such burnt Land, they will have incredible increase, 16 or 20 Bolls, after one Bolls sowing.

5. All kinds of Grain grow here, which grow anywhere else within the Kingdom; but yet there are but small quantities of Wheat & Pease sown. The Commons generally are ignorant of the Use and benefit of this last Grain, which is the reason, they so much neglect it. The Grain, which grows most plentifully is Oats, some of which, they have

good and fair; but they have another sort again, long, small & very black, which strangers would hardly give to their Horses; and yet the Inhabitants make very good meal thereof. Sometimes they sow Bear, and reap Oats; but it is not every kind of Bear that doth this, but a peculiar sort, which is commonly called Barley-Oats.

6. There is in this Countrey, abundance of Fowl, both wild & tame as also all sort of Bestial, Horse, Sheep and Neat, but all of a very small size.

7. Buchan is very well watered: for there be everywhere plenty of Wells and Watersprings, and little Rivulets running along the Land. But besides Diveron and Ythen, which bound it, there is only one River to be taken notice of, viz: Ugy some 12 miles from Ythen, which runneth about 15 or 18 miles and then disgorgeth itself into the Sea near Peterhead. Its Head is divided into two Branches ordinarily called the Fore and Back Water of Ugy: they unite within four or five miles of the Mouth. In this Water there be many Salmon, so that the Earle Marischall, who is Proprietar, will be able yearly to sell near about 50 or 60 Barrels.

8. This Countrey is well peopled: for all things necessary to life are easily had here. The occupation of the Men, whether Gentry or Coñons is labouring and Husbandry: other Trades, except what is simply necessary, are scarce plyed. And generally all are accustomed to learn and practise so much of these as serves their own term, that there is little encourage-<sup>253.</sup>ment for Arts and Trades here. Victual then is all the Product of this Countrey and when it giveth a good price, then it goeth well with the Masters and Heritours, but when it is otherwise, they are ordinarily much straitened for money. The Women of this Countrey are mostly employed in spinning and working of stockings and making of Plaiden-Webs, which the Aberdeen Merchant carry over sea. And it is this which bringeth money to the Coñons, other ways of getting it, they have not.

9. There are no Royal Burghs, or Burghs of Regality in this Countrey: but there are several Towns and Villages notour and famous enough; viz: Ellon, Old Deer, Turreffe, Peterhead, Rosarty, Fraserburgh.

Ellon is a small Village belonging now to the Lairds of Water-



toun. which stands hard upon Eytken, at which there be these considerable and beneficial Mercats Rood-fair & Mary Mass Fair.

Next is Old Deer, which stands upon Ugy. It belongs to the Earle Marischall. Two of the greatest Fairs of the Kingdom hold here viz: Aikie Fair in summer, and St. Dunstan Fair in winter. Here there stood of old a Monastery about a Quarter of a mile from the Town; the Ruines thereof are still to be seen. It seems not to have had fine Buildings, but there were many of them. Its Revenue was very considerable, the first Founder Cumin Earl of Buchan. Their Monks were of the Cistercian Order, and the second son to the E. Marschall, was always Lord Commendator. Earle George had the Gift of its Lands and Rents from K. James the Sixt in compensation of the expense he was at in expeding the Marriage with Anne of Denmark. But the Gift was but small, considering that by the Foundation of the House, the second son was superiour thereof.

Turreff stands near to Diveran, and belongs to the Earle of Errol. There was an Hospital of old here. Near to this Town is Dalgety where Errol sometimes lives.

254. Peterhead is a sea-town erected into a Barony by the fore-said Earle George Marischall, and his Successours are still Superiours thereof. See the Account of Peterhead. As for the Well that is here, it is to be remembred, that there be several others of the same kind in other places of this Countrey as particularly in the Parish of Old and New Deer, though their tincture be not so high. It is High Water here, when the Moon is direct South.

Some 12 miles from Peterhead lyes Frazerburgh, which hath a dependance upon My Lord Saltoun, formerly the Lairds of Philorth. There is a safe Harbour here and the Shipping and Trade of this Town is increased much of late.

Rosarty is a small little Fisher town pertaining to the Lord Pitsligo, which he designs to enlarge, and to build a safe Harbour thereat.

10. Buchan is neither an intire shire of itself, nor doth it appertain all to one, but to two different Shires, that which is besouth Ugy answers to the Sherifdom of Aberdeen and the other side to Bamff.

11. All Buchan belongs to the Diocese of Aberdeen, and there be three several Presbytery Seats in it viz: Ellon, Old Deer, Turreff.

Ellon containeth eight Parishes Methlick, Tarvas, Udney, Foverain, Logy Buchan, Ellon, Cruden & Slains. But the Churches of these three last only stand within Buchan, the rest are in Formartine.

Old Deer containeth 13 Parishes all lying within Buchan viz: Old Deer, Anchredy or New Deer, Strechin, Longside, Peterhead, St. Fergus, Crimond, Lonmay, Rathen, Tyrie, Frazerburgh, Pitsligo, Aberdour.

Turreff containeth the Parishes of Turreff, Monwhitter, Fivie, Forgie, Aucherles, Drumblait, King-Edward, Forglin, Gamrie, Ava. But they do not all belong to what is called Buchan.

12. These Noblemen reside & have their Interests in Buchan. Errol, whose Dwelling house is the Bowens, which is hard upon the Sea so that its Waves will many times blow over the House. He liveth sometimes also at Dalgety and had the <sup>255</sup> Castle of Slains of old, but it is now demolished. Marischall, whose dwelling house is Inverugy, over against which is the Craig a fine House, but it was ruined in the late troubles. Saltoun who lives at Philorth, and Pitsligo at Pitsligo. The Earles of Buchan were both very ancient and very great, but he who hath now that Title, is of late standing and hath no fortune.

13. The things most remarkable in Buchan seem to be the Parish of Foveray, which is wholly overgrown with sand; and it is said that the sand and sea is encroaching upon many places. 2. The dropping Cave of Slains; 3 Bullers Buchan near to the Bowens. 4 The Well of Peterhead. 5 The multitude of Selchs, which came in at Strabegge. 6 Eagles who build in the Craigs of Pennan.

14. The sea-coast runs Northeast to Peterhead, which is the Eastmost place in all Scotland. From Peterhead to Frazerburgh it is somewhat Westerly, afterwards plat West.

15. As there are much Fish in this Coast, so Whales are seen in it. This year one was taken at Peterhead, which had run between two Rocks of 70 foot; and the fishers reported to

have seen them in great Numbers. The sea cast up here the bone called the Cuttle bone, and that blackish or brown shell or nut wherein they ordinarily use to keep snuff.

Some few years ago at Pitsligo there was seen two Mermaids by Mr Alex<sup>r</sup> Robertson Pitsligo's Chaplain an English man and another person. What the other are, I know not, but the first is known to be ingenuous. There was one also seen in the River of Don many days together, about the beginning of the late troubles, as severall persons yet living will attest.

### A DESCRIPTION of PETERHEAD.

It lyes within the County of Buchan, and Sherifffdom of Aberdeen, belonging all, save very little, to the V. Honourable the E. Marischall.

It is bounded on the South with a Moor or Mount, that  
 256. separates it from My Lord Errol's Lands and from the West and Northwest by the other adjacent Land, the County of Buchan terminating in this Parish and Town, as in a Wedge or Promontory known better by the name of Bokeness.

This Parish is called in old Writs Peter-Eugy, the Water Eugy washing it on the North, and is plentiful in salmon fishing belonging to the E. Marischall.

On the East it is bounded with the German Ocean, which in the Winter seasons, rages most violently.

The Town of Peterhead was erected by George E. Marischall (who was Commissioner to Denmark for the Marriage of the King, the same that erected the Marschall Colledge,) and was erected by him into a Burgh of Barony, where on a part of the said Town, called Keyth Inch, he did erect a strong Castle, which with the adjacent Peninsula, is the Eastmost part of Scotland and but 70 leagues distant from the nearest parts of Norway. In this Inch I have seen six hundred men in tents in the time of the Rebellion, and these Rebels of the English Nation garrisoned in it for several years.

Things remarkable are an excellent Medicinal Well, described by that ingenious and worthy Gentleman D<sup>r</sup> Moor, a native of Peterhead and Professor of Medicine in the Kings Colledge at

Aberdeen. The Cures wrought by this Well are very remarkable and many, so that I think it fit, the Magistrates of the Town should be required to give an Account of the most remarkable Cures done by it, and that under their Town Clerks hand, and to keep a Register of them.

Next is the Harbour; one most comòdious, which imbosomes itself in the said Keyth Inch, and makes a Defence from the East by the Inch & numerous Rocks round about. The Inch is thinly built, but of good Buildings, these that are, the Earles Marischall not being willing to few it to any. <sup>257.</sup> Yea the foresaid George Earle Marischall was offered for this Inch several Tuns of Gold by the Dutch, it being advantagious for their summer fishing in the Northern Seas, and because of its excellent situation.

The Harbour in it called Port Henry hath its name from one Henry Middletoun in Clerkhill, who in the said E. George his time was instrumental under the said Earle to have this erected from an open shore to a secure Harbour; and it hath been by the care and pains of the late E. William and this present Earle George brought to what it is now, to receive all from North, East & South to their very great advantage and security both in storm and calm.

It hath on the South side a Bay that is called the South Road which will contain several hundreds of ships most securely at Anchor except when the Wind bloweth from the East.

There is a North Harbour very secure, called Saltcote hive which from its name, together also with another place a mile south called Salthouse head, gives me to apprehend, there hath been Salt made in these places of old, before the erection of the Town, to serve the Inland Countrey of Buchan.

Betwixt these two Harbours, as a Guard to the 'Town on the East side, is a great tract of Rocks or great stones scattered and are of great bigness and firm, and not condensed but separate Whinways which doth beat back the violent surges of the sea. Along this tract of Rocks runs a violent Tide very impetuous called Trot-Valley, that several Mariners, who have been great Travellers, have admired its impetuosity in most fair Weather.



In this Town is one of the best Fishings that is on the North Coast, for all white fish, except Herrings, and they have a singular skill in fishing, so that their Fishes are a Proverb in the Nation.

The Inhabitants are very Civil and discreet to all strangers and very helpfull in times of shipwrecks or other dangers and  
258. give all possible aid, and supply to all that arrive at their Coasts.

This Town after its first erection, did number twenty sail of good ships belonging to itself altogether, and were employed by the Merchants of Edr. for conveying the granaries of Caithness, Sutherland and Ross to the south land: but by the ruine of the Bulwark, their number decayed though now again they are repairing their losses.

It is to be observed, that the English, when they had founded their Cittadells of Inverness, Air, Leith &c coming to see the stance and site of this place, were much greived for not seeing it sooner, it being most commodious for a Cittadell or Garrison; and to have been improved to an excellent Port to the Eastern seas.

There are several ships built here, of one or two Decks, and have all the properties of good sailing, which are set upon Stocks in the said Inch, and are lanchd thence very easily.

This Inch every 24 hours is twice environed with the sea, and so makes a pleasant Peninsula.

It is a very pleasant & healthfull air, and very serene, without Fogs or Mists, though it be imbosomed in the German Ocean, and all the Canicular days, almost, ye will find a gentle breath of North East Wind from off the sea to cool the heat on the Mainland.

It is remarkable, that two ships, one coming from Fifeness and another from Cromarty, may come with one and the same Wind viz: Westerly, and arrive here at one and the same instant; and can go no further either Southward or Northward. Which ariseth from the situation of this Town, which draws into the form or fashion of a Tongue or Wedge from Taymouth and Murray firth, and casts the Countrey or Mainland into the form of a Triangle in all well drawn Mapps.

These things with many others are noticeable, which the

Magistrates should be required to give account of. I have set this down, & appeal to all the Skippers of the South Firth for the verity of the premises.

## DESCRIPTION of the PARISH of DUNOTIR 259.

The Parish of Dunotir, alias St. Brigid the Tutelar Saint thereof, but denominate now from the most eminent thing in it, viz: the Castle of Dunotir. It is very probable, that the Family of the Keyths having gained their Honours at the Sands of Barry, which was at that time in the Parish of Panbride, where St. Brigid was worshipped; were obliged to an Annual Vow or Oblation, and to make a greater Compensation to that Saint, seeing they had no Dwelling contigue to Panbride, they erected this Church in their own territory to St. Brigid, and gave the denomination to the same, as a Stone of an ells height four square, with the Keyths Scutcheon on the one side & +. B. ARA on the other and some Letters mouldered away, on the third, may insinuate. This stone being taken from the Altar, was erected in the said Church and now stands two furlongs from the said Church in a Know called the Musehillock. The Buriall place of the Earles Marischall, being a large Vault and an Isle cieled above, and decored with Scutcheons of the deceased Worthies joyns to the Wall of this Church.

In this Parish the things that are remarkable, beside the ordinary products of the ground, Bear, Oats, Wheat, Rie, Pasturage Timber of several sorts, are—

1. That the great Strath or Strathmore, begins here at Stonehyve 'twixt it and Cowy and ascends in a long tract to the How of the Merns and terminates some say at St. Johnston, others at the West Sea.

2. There is a Loch called the Loch of Lumger, that never dries and abounds with fishes and little Islets of Rushes, where great companies of sea-fowls do build, and which is a receptacle for swans in the Winter time.

3. The Castle of Dunotir famous in this Nation for its great strength natural and artificial. The name Dunotir as I have

260. from a Gentleman that is well skilled in the Highland Idiom D.F., sounds thus; Dun, a Fort, O, Low or laich, and Tir a Countrey which is together, the Fort in the Low Countrey. This designation the old Scots gave it, who lived above Straquhan, and upwards, when they spoke of it. Its situation is sixteen miles from Montross & twelve miles from Aberdeen. There is from St. Fiacres Bay, that lyeth South the Girdleness, a whole Coast of Rocks, which the Seamen call an Iron Coast; and of great height, all along to the shore of Cowy, where the Bay called Stonebay or Stonehive is situate, and immediately on the Southside of the Harbour of Stonehive, begins again a great tract of Rocks to the Water of Bervy, which boundeth the Parishes of Dunotir, Caterline and Kinieff towards the East: In the great Coast of Rocks that makes Creeks, Capes, Promontories and Noses into the Sea, upon one great Rock and of a vast Circumference is situate the Coast and Fort of Dunotir, which very easily might be made an Isle with small pains; a very small neck of ground before the Gates, being taken away, the two Bays that wash the South and North side of this Rock would meet. To this Castle we go down a Pend from the Continent or firm ground which it seems, hath been digged and made passable and is laid with a Causey.

In your entry, as ye make to the gate, on your right hand, stands a huge Rock called the Fiddle, of near fourty ells height, and as it would seem, still threatning to fall on you, which is a very strange Jamb, and is as ye would think, an infinite number of brown firm Whinstones souldered with a firm gravelly Cement; that I think it could by great violence be rendered into these smaller portions. But who have not seen it, will look on this as a Paradox, it is so vast a bulk and firm.

Entring the gate, four or five abraice can go up the Pend, 261. which is somewhere vaulted, and otherwhere open, and after a turning, two or three, if I remember well, we come to the Area or an excellent plot of green ground, from which, leaving the Vaults behind you on both your hands as ye come from the Gate, ye may enter to the old work, the midle work, and the new work.

The old work is seven stories high; and from the battlement

down to the foot of the Rock, where the Sea washes, it's a great downward look and will be above thirty House height from the Sea to the Battlement. I omit the number and order of Rooms. It is four Square built and of thick walls.

In the Midle Work is the Ammunition House, Forestairs, and large Lofts, all the Building being two stories high. On the East are situate Guns Brass and Iron, and a little plot of a yard, wherein are Potherbs; and other things that endure the proximity of the seas. Next a Church demolished by the English in the days of Cruelism and Cromvelism.

'Twixt the Church and the new Work are large Rooms, amongst which is a Closet that kept the famous Library, which belonged to that Honourable Family, which also suffered prejudices by the Rebels.

#### THE KING'S CHAMBER.

The Black Stock, being an ancient Badge or *Tessera Hospitalis* of the Liberality and Charity of that renowned Family, that I believe Keyth and the Blackstock are very reciprocal Terms.

The Hall, a Dining room very large, and a statelier thing than all this, is the long Gallery curiously cieled with Oak and after a very rich form, excellently lighted and in the end of it, a stone in the midst of the Wall, taken out of Adrian's Wall, as in the end of these Papers, is to be seen. At the back of the Gallery to the West, as it were to defend from the Continent a great plot for Guns. Within the Close, is a large Cistern more then thirty Cubits about, to which of old the <sup>262.</sup> Water was Conveyed by Pipes. And it is declared as a truth, that while the English held Garison there, it stopped and after a long time, the late Earle Marischall coming in, while they kept Garison the Well sprung, and they came and told the Governour, at which the Earle said Well Gentlemen, this, I see, know me to be Master. It springs now without any artificial help, never dries and contains a large quantity of Water.

Many mo things might be here related: for it is rather a village of Dwellings than one Dwelling. It is a Palace and a Fort, and will contain in well built Vaults under ground,



a thousand men. Of this Dwelling and Fort one thus writes ;  
 Viderat Hadriacis &c

What Sanazar of Venice spake so proud,  
 Is here at large ; though Fame be not so loud  
 To found the Wonders of the Borean Coast,  
 Yet we of Natures Work, may make our boast ;  
 Neptune doth kiss the foot of this great Fort ;  
 Æolus environs it in powerfull sort :  
 Mars bellow round upon its Walls in Thunder,  
 It's marvellous above, more in the Cells that's under.  
 It scorns the sea, and doth triumph upon it ;  
 It mocks the Land, and stands a distance from it :  
 Who doubts the same, come see, for I do cease  
 Only it's fitter far for War then Peace.

The Regal Honours were secured here by the pains and diligence of the E. of Kintore, and this was their last Refuge of Defence. But by the sufferings and hazard of the said worthy Earle when they behoved to be transferred, they went to the Church of Kinneff in the Merns, and were there preserved till the Owner Our gracious Sovereign his Return,  
 263. which may give us to observe that Sovereignty and Honours their last and best Refuge, when Forts, Arms and Castles fail, is the Church and Religion.

4. In the foresaid tract of Rocks South from Dunotir is Fowlsheuch, called so from the multitude of sea fowls, besides a Hawk of an excellent kind, that is herried yearly there. The number & variety of these Fowls that nestle, hatch & are taken there yearly, is very remarkable, the Earle Marischall maintaining a man with several others, that go down twice a day 'twixt May & August & that in the first moneth for Eggs, and the remainder of the time for the Birds called Kittiwakes, a delicious meat, which the Countrey buyes from the said man, that hazards down with a Tow about him ; after that he hath served the E. Marischall, whose is the Rock and the Whole Parish. It is very remarkable besides, which they tell, that the Coots and Cotterkins, who lay these Eggs foresaid, have as is affirmed, but one Egg, and have it in a posture of standing straight on their shelves, which, if removed, can never be fixed so again. Besides this, I have seen in the Moneth of Aprill, an infinite number of these fowls called

Kittiwaikes come to a Marish above the Heuch and there with Claws and Nebs, carry home mire and moss & build therewith, and the whole day ye shall not miss one squad going and another coming in a most regular & peaceable way; and if any let fall their burden, they go not back, but without disordering the rest, they all go home, and come altogether again. The Countrey Gentlemen and from severall Shires come hither in Summer and divert themselves in beholding these pleasant numbers of flying Fowls and Sea-birds that are here in greater numbers than any one known part that we hear of.

In this long tract of Rocks 'twixt Stonehive and Inverbervy especially in four miles of length, which belongs to the Earle Marischall as we pass by boat; the Creeks, Rocks and Galleries, Caves & Promontorys that we behold, are most pleasant, <sup>264.</sup> and of a vast height from the surface of the Sea: Among the rest, one pleasant place, called the Ladies Gallery, We sail through, which is vaulted by hand of Nature to admiration, and yeilds a most grave and delectable Eccho to a Trumpet or a Song.

5. The Town and Harbour of Stonehive, where is the Seat of Justice for the Shire, a spacious and large Tolbooth of two or three stories, a rich Quarry of excellent stones on the Southside of the Harbour, a Salmon Fishing on the Northside, belonging to the E. Marischall. The Harbour was erected first from an open shore by the Earles Marischall, and afterward by the late Earle built to a considerable height, but was ruined on that evil Monday, so pernicious to the Northern Coast of this Nation, and now again is a repairing by the industry and expence of the E. Marischall, with a voluntary Contribution to be gathered throughout the Nation, it being a Harbour of 28 or 30 foot Water in the Entry, as I am informed, and a Harbour as serviceable and ready as any 'twixt the two Firths if the Peer were erected, which are arguments sufficient to move all worthy Spirits.

A NOTE of some remarkable things within the SHERIFF-DOM of the MERNS, by Mr. JOHN KEYTH sometime Minister at DUNOTIR and late Minister at GARVOCK found among his Papers in his Closet after his Death, which is faithfully here transcribed from the Authentic Copy.

There be three Promontories therein viz: one upon the South side of the Water of Dee called Girdleness. A 2<sup>d</sup> called  
 265. Fowls heuchness, a mile be South Dunotir. a third called Todhead or Craigevy on the Northside of the Water of Bervy.

There is also a Bay under the Kirk of Egglesgreg called S. Siras Hope, a commodious Roads for ships in a stress of Wind out of the Northwest, where they ly calm under the shelter of a high Hill.

There be many little shores for fisher-boats, as Torry at the mouth of Dee, the Cove, Port Leviathan so called by reason of some Whales, that come ashore there; Findon, *inde* Findon Haddocks, shore of Elsieck, of Muchels, Skateraw, Cowy, Craton, Heuchhead, Gappall, Bervy, Gourdon, Johnshaven, Mill of Mathers.

Notandum, that at Stonehive, the Sea-Coast strikes in like a firth, and is the surest Harbour betwixt the two Firths viz: Murray firth and Forth, if it had a sure Harbour.

There be four Rivers or litle Waters here, viz: the Water of Cowy, of Carron, of Bervy, of Luther. The first three disgorge themselves in the German Sea, the fourth viz: Luther, into North Esk, a litle beneath the Bridge. The Kirk nearest thereto hath its denomination from the said Water, and is called Aber Luthernet q.d. *Apud vel juxta ostia Aber Luther.*

At the mouth of Cowy Water, there is a free Burgh called Cowy *vetusta magis quam opulenta*, by reason of the want of a Shore or Sea-port for ships. There is to be seen beneath the Town the Ruines of a Castle built, as is supposed, by Malcolm Canmore the Town of Cowy made a free Burgh by the said King. Besides these Ruines, there is an old Chappel, called the Kirk of Cowy; and a Chaplainry belonging thereto,

given out by the King of old, and the Parson of Fettiress <sup>266.</sup> hath a portion of the said Chaplainry given to him by the Kings donation, to this day.

There be many Crofts of land yet beside this ruinous Castle and the Town of Cowy that have their several denominations from the several Office-men of the said Palace as Cooks-Croft, Porter-Croft, Stable Croft, Stewart Croft, and have their several Charters to this effect.

It is to be remarked, that after the Reformation of Religion in this Kingdom, in Queen Marie's time, this Chappel being demolished by reason of superstitious resorting thereto, a certain man called William Rait of Redcloak brought away some of the Roof of this Chappel, and built a House therewith, and a little thereafter the whole House rained drops of blood. There be some living yet, that can testify this.

Nota. There was an Invasion of the Danes in this Shire where they landed betwixt Cowy and Stonehive. Their Trenches are yet to be seen on the lands of Arduthy and Redcloak. The Scots incamped against them in a little Hill above the Place of Urie, casting a deep Ditch round about the Hill as is to be seen to this day, and is called by the Commons Readykes alias Redoubts, which is a Term of Fortification.

There is a Loch not far from this, near the Water of Cowy within the lands of Redcloak called the Loch of Redcloak and Lilly-loch. It is not spacious, but very remarkable for a rare sort of White Lilly growing therein, not of that sort found within the Kingdom but in another only. They grow up in the midst of the Loch from Roots bound together as great as Firstocks which are found in Mosses, with six leaves, and in quantity as great as a White Rose, very much commended <sup>267.</sup> by the Physicians. It is found by experience, that the Water of this Loch will cleanse Linnencloth, as well without any ingredient, as other Water will do with sope.

Among the Grampian Hills, that fall into the Merns, these are remarkable; the Eastmost Carnmothern a passage to Deeside, upon the West side thereof, called Slug of Gellen. The next Carlaouk. The third Clochnaben, which signifies, as some say, a White Stone, because upon the head thereof, there is a stone as big as a little Mountain. Others call it Clochnaben



quasi The Stone of Convention, because in former times, the Gentlemen of the Shire convened there in Summer time for Hunting, Fowling, and other Sports. The uppermost is called Mount Battock a march betwixt Straquhan and Glenesk.

Cow mouth is ten miles in breadth, dangerous in former times to pass, by reason of Robbers, but for the most part manured and made fertile by Brunt land both in Oats and Beer. The way is stony and mossy. There be two Causeys in this Mouth, the one about three quarters of a mile, the other a quarter. Without these two the passage to Aberdeen were impossible in the Winter-Season. The first founders of these Causeys are uncertain. There is an old Husband town near by them called Cookstoun given out in old, for the maintenance of these Causeys, but of old being altogether come to decay, there was a general Contribution by the Gentlemen of the Merns for repairing of them. The town of Aberdeen collected the same, undertook the same, have laid them *de novo*, and finished the work in the year 1634, a fair Porch being built at the entry thereof.

Nota. Besides the dropping Cove of Slaynes mentioned by 268. our ancient Chronologers, where Water turns into stone, there is another beside Dunotir, which seems to be a bituminous or sulphureous matter, and no other nor salt peter.

Nota that Mr. George Wishart and Walter Myln Martyrs were born in this Shire, the one in Pittaro, and son to the Laird thereof the other, viz: Walter Myln, was born at the Myln of Garvock.

Nota. The howe of the Merns begins at the Moss of Craigie and little Fiddes and extends to the Moss of Arnehall, which is about 14 miles.

Nota. The space betwixt Dunotir and Feterass is two miles.

There is to be marked within the Palace of Dunotir, besides many others, two rare things. First the black stock a monument of Hospitality and open House holding there. It was still covered with all sorts of Vivers of meat and drink, and all men that came to the place, accepted to it. The other is most worthy of observation and that is a stone that was found in a Dike in the Borders of England and Scotland brought to Dunotir by Earle George Marishall sometime Ambassador

to Denmark for Queen Anne. It is well enough known to all these who have read our stories of ancient times, that the Romans invading this Isle of Britain came and subdued England and marching toward the Border of Scotland, built a Ditch and Dike called *Vallum Hadriani*, now Grame's Dike. The Romans then hewed a stone foursquare, the Eagle their Insignia drawn on the sides thereof, with some Letters in the Middest. This stone was by industry found and by the said Earle brought by him to Dunotir, and fixed into his Gallery which is to be seen at this day. The Frame of the stone is thus:—

IMP. CÆSARI.  
T. ÆLIO. HADRIA  
NO. ANTONINO. AVG.  
PIO. P.P. VEXILLATION  
LEG. XX. VAL. VIC.  
F. PER. MIL. P. III.

269.

This William Earle Marischall, who now lives this year 1642, is the 19<sup>th</sup> Marischall lineally from his Ancestours.

He carrieth in his Colours the Badge of the Castle of Dunotir having this Inscription. *Immobile.*

In the Merns there is but one Presbytery, which meeteth at Fordun ordinarily. There belong to it fourteen Parish Churches viz: Banchory or Feteress, Dunotir, Kineff, Caterline, Bervy, Benholme, St. Cyrus, Aberluthnot, Garvock, Fetercarne, Conwith, Fordon, Arbuthnot, Marycouter.

The Shire is a part of the Diocese of St. Andrews and comes to that Synod.

One Burgh Royall to wit, Bervy. The Sheriff Court meets at Stonehive, which is the only fittest Harbour.

The length betwixt the North Water and the Water of Dee, will be some 28 miles: the breadth of the Champaigne Country some 10 miles; their Highland Country may be as much. The Strath large 14 miles long.

270. There be many ancient Families, Cheifs of their Names, as Bannerman of Elsick, Burnet of Leighe, Keith Marishall, Douglass of Glenbervy, Straiton of Lauriston, Arbuthnot, Wood of Bebegno, Allardice of that Ilk, Halkarton Falconer of which name there are besides Glen Farcher, Newtoun Lord President of the Session, to whom belongs Inglishmadie, Bamakeilla, Sir John Falconer's Residence at Galrae, Falconer of Ferdro, Rait of Hallgreen, Grahame of Morphey, Pataraw now Carnegy, formerly Wischart Middleton, Earle of Kin-carden, Meinzie of Pitfoddels, Ramsay of Balmein. There was formerly Barclay of Maiters, now Barclay of Ury, Scot of Benholme, Strachan of Thorntine.

### DESCRIPTION of STRATHSPEY.

Through this Countrey runneth the famous River Spey, *omnium fluviorum Scotiæ &c.* It taketh its beginning at a great Craig called Craig Ilachie, which divideth this Countrey from Badenoch. This word Craig Ilachie is the Laird of Grant's Slugan. When ever the word is cryed through this Countrey, all the Inhabitants are obliged under a great Fine or Mulct, to rise in Arms and repair themselves to a meeting place in the midst of the Countrey lying on the Rivers side called Bellentone and there to receive the Laids Commands. Upon the Southside of the River opposite to Craig Ilachie, lyeth the Parish of Rothenmurchus, which contains Six Dauchs of Land, each Dauch being four Ploughs. This Parish is in a Creek and a pendicle of the personage of Duthell. It holds

271. of the Regalitie of Spynie, it belongs to Patrick Grant a Cadet of Grant's family; but formerly it belonged to the Schaws, who yet possess the Parish, Alexander Schaw of Dell being the Head of the Tribe. The Schaws are able fighting men, and acknowledge Mackintosh to be their Chieftain, and go under his Banner. The Schaws killed the Cumins that dwelt here, who built a Castle in the midst of a great Loch called Loch-Iland. This Castle is usefull to the Countrey in time of troubles or wars: for the people put in their goods and children here, and it is easily defended, being environed with steep Hills, and Craigs on each side, except towards the

East. There is in the body of this Parish, a great Firr Wood of two miles length, but very broad in respect it runneth up into many Burnes. Here is a Saw-Mill, a great Forrest with Deer and Roe, which marcheth with the forrest of Marr to the South.

Upon the Northside of the River, opposite to Rothemurcus beginning at Craig Ilachie lyeth the Parish of Duthell or Lordship of Glenchernick, which formerly belonged to the Cumings, but now to the Laird of Grant, the Laird of Grant having married Beglit Cumine Heir to Lord Alex<sup>r</sup> Cumin, by whom he got this Estate. This Parish and Parsonage is within the Diocese of Murray and Sherifffdom thereof. It runneth five miles under the Hills from Craig Ilachie, till ye come to the Water of Dullan. This Water is in both sides habitable, of ten miles of length, being a pleasant Water, good Corn land, excellent Meadows, good pasturage in both sides. There comes no salmon in this Water, but extraordinary much Kipper, that is salmon in the forbidden time, which are in such abundance, that a Gentleman thinks nothing to kill 160 in a night. They use to feast the Sheriff, and so escape the fine, but the Commonalty pay some little thing. About the midle of the Water, and at the head thereof there are <sup>272.</sup> great Firr Woods in both sides, replenished with Deer and Roe, much timber from thence transported to Inverness. There is here two miles Mounth, which divideth this Countrey from Strath Earn to the Northwest, called Kairne Lair Bane.

About the middle of the River, standeth the Kirk of Duthell a large Church, but a poor Provision, as all the Churches of this Countrey of Strath-Spey have, not exceeding 500 Merks Scots for each Minister, who serveth at two Churches, and some of them having seven miles betwixt their Kirks, and in the whole world, there are not worse payed Ministers and more neglected. The Bands of the Kirk doors are very rare, made after the manner of a Tree casting out its branches and covering the whole Door after the manner of needle-work.

There are several Gentlemens Houses here, of the name of Grant, given to Hospitality and Frugality. The Chief Family here is that of the Clan Donichie, Mr. James Grant of Delvers



Advocate being the Head of their Tribe. The Women here are vertuous, much given to the making of Cloth, by which they yearly enrich their Husbands with money.

At the foot of the Water of Dullan, standeth the Castle of Muckrach belonging to the Laird of Grant. From Duthell eastwards there is a great Forrest belonging to his Majesty called the Leanach which formerly was well replenished with Deer and Roe but much neglected by reason that they pasture much Cattell there which brings in money to the Laird of Calder, who is Forrester. In this Mounth is the famous Loch  
 273. called Lochin Dirb, two miles in length, where there is a Castle that hath been very great, one of the Cumin's Strengths. Here the Cumin's Lady was besieged by King Robert Bruce, the Sconses being yet extant, till Edward Langshanks came raised the seige.

This Mounth on the South, hath Strathspey, on the North, Strath Earn, on the East Bray Moray, being very long. In the narrowest part, it is eight miles of breadth, and runneth till it come to Lochaber 40 miles.

Opposite to the Parish of Duthell, that part of it which lyeth on the River Spey, on the other side of the River, lyeth the Parish of Kincharden anciently possessed by the Stewarts, who had their Charter from King Robert Bruce; but being wrested from by Conadge it now belongeth to Huntly.

Above this Parish lyeth the Glen-More, where is a great Firr Wood with much Birch. Here is a great Loch, out of which runneth a Water, which runneth through Rothemurcus, called Druie & runneth into the Spey. They use to bring down their timber on this Water. Here is the famous Hill called Kairne Gorum, which is four miles high. Here it is said, there are Minerals: for Gold hath been found here. This Hill aboundeth with excellent Crystall. Much Deer and Roe here. The people of this Parish much neglect labouring, being addicted to the Wood, which leaves them poor. There is much talking of a Spirit called Ly-Erg that frequents the Glen-More. He appears with a red hand in the habit of a Souldier and challenges men to fight with him, as lately in 69 he fought with three Brothers one after another, who immediately dyed thereafter.

Opposite to Kincharden, lyeth the Parish of Inver-Ellon belonging to the Laird of Grant. The Chief family here is <sup>274</sup> that of the Clanphadrike, Tullachcorume being the Head of that Tribe of the name of Grant. In old there frequented this Family a Spirit called Meg Mulloch. It appeared like a little Boy, and in dark nights would hold a candle before the Goodman, and shew him the way home, and if the Goodwife would not come to bed, it would cast her in beyond him and if she refused to bring what he desired, it would cast it before him. Excellent Corns here.

Opposite to Inver-Ellon lyeth the Parish of Abernethie. Here is a great Firr Wood 24 miles in Compass, two Saw-Mills belonging to Grant, with ane old Castle built by the red Friars. The Chief Family here is that of the Clan-Allan, Achernick being the Head of that family. Excellent Meadows here on the River side, and good Corn-land; severall good Gentlemens Houses given to Hospitality on the Water of Nethie, which runneth through this Parish. This Water aboundeth with Kipper. They are given to makin of Cloth, and selling of Weathers and Oxen.

Beneath Abernethie lyeth the Parish of Cromdell. The Lands here in ancient times belonged to the Nairns, but now to Grant. This Parish is exceeding good land, and lyeth on both sides of the River. Much Salmon taken here. Here is Bella Castle, the Lairds Chief Residence, a stately House with Parks about the same, great grassings. Beneath Cromdell on the South side lyeth the House and land of Delvey in a Creek of the River, good land &c. And next thereto lyeth the land of Advi. Next to it is the Water of Aven, whereon standeth the Castle of Bellindallach. This Water of Aven hath Woods on both sides, and four miles above this Castle, the Water divideth into two, the one half coming through Glenlivet an excellent Countrey for Corns and Pasturage and it lyeth towards the Southeast; where are the Castles of Blairphine <sup>275</sup> and Drummie. Towards the Southwest lyeth the Countrey of Strathdown, a good high Countrey for Corns, Pasturage, Woods, Deer and Roe. The people here are more rude than in any other place or Waterside that runneth into Spey. Generally both in this Countrey and Glenlivet they have

fallen to Popery. The Countreys abound with all necessaries for the use of man, they are within Bamffshire.

On the Southside of the River, lyeth the Church of Inver-Aven being the Chancellour Seat of Murray. This Parish is within Bamffshire & Diocese of Murray.

Opposite to it is the Parish of Knockando belonging to the Laird of Grant. It is five miles of length on the Northside of the River, being good land, and a great Mounth, that divideth it from Murrayland. There are several Gentlemens Houses here, the people civil. Here endeth the Irish Language.

INFORMATION for SIR ROBERT SIBBALD anent  
the SHIRE of FORFAR by OUCTERLONY  
of GUINDE. See another Volume Page.<sup>1</sup>

*Addita aut mutata per Dnum Sibbaldum manu ipsius scripta.*

The Judicatories thereof are the Sheriff Court, whereof the Earles of Southesk are Heritable Sheriffes.) The Sherifship is at the Sovereigns Donation and the Earle of Northest is present Sheriff.

Four Church Regalities viz : Aberbrothoc, Brechin, Couper and Rescobie) Rescobie a branch of the Regality of St. Andrews.

The whole lands thereof hold of him) the following words some few some ward are delete.

Kerremoor, whereof the Marquess of Douglass is Lord of Erection) the words of Erection are delete.

Great abundance of Cattel, Sheep and Horse) The Breed of horses is now worn out.

The Countrey aboundeth in Quarries of free stone excellent for hewing and cutting especially one at the Castle of Glames.) added. and the other at Denfin belonging to the Earle of Panmure, which polish'd resembleth Marble.

276. In the Landwart Parish thereof there are several Gentlemens Houses as Meikle Loure belonging) to Master Patrick Carnegy sone.

ibidem. Balmashanner) now belonging to Falconars.

<sup>1</sup> *Macfarlane's Geographical Collections*, vol. ii. p. 21.—ED.

Halkerstoun formerly to Guthries, now to Gray, there are several other small heretors.

Kinnetles the Bishop of Edr. Patron) To consider if the Bishop of Edr. be Patron.

Inneraritie and Methie are now joyned in one Parish and have but one Minister, viz: M<sup>r</sup> Grahame, in the Diocese of St. Andrews.) from these words are delete all to Wester Methie.

Ibid Dunchine) the Barony of Dunichen. ibid, below, is delete only Representative of the foresaid Family of Ouchterlony of that Ilk.

Ibid. Aberlemno) The Chief Heritour and Chieff of his name are delete.

Melgund &<sup>c</sup> to and some Addition made to all by Henry Maul late Laird thereof) Added whose father was Henry Maule fourth son of Robert Maule of Panmure, whose sone James Maule was a great Improver of the Douking bell.

ibid. Balgayes) formerly belonging to the Lindsay, now to Strachan.

ibid. belonging to the family of Ouchterlony of that Ilk usque Chief of his name, all delete.

Kerremoor Parish. ibid. Glenprossine belonging to the Laird of Bandoch) now Kinloch of that Ilk.

Dundee Parish. ibid Constabulary of Dundee) This Constabulary belongs now to the D. of Douglass Donator to the late Viscount of Dundee's forfeiture.

ibid. The Bonnethill) lately purchast by the Town of Dundee.

ibid. Pitkerro belonging to Durham) now to the heirs of George McKenzie one of the Clerks of Exchequer.

Moniefieth) The Lairds of Moniefieth, Barnhill and others belong to the Earle of Panmure.

Grange Durham) now Grange Martyne.

Ardounie) Arduny belongs now to Duncan of Arduny.

Omachie Durhame) Omachie Wedderburn.

Monikie) Most part of all the Parish with the Castle of Monikie belong properlie to the E. of Panmure, and is called the Barony of Dunie. Addition, now Incorporat with the Barony of Panmure.



Murrayes) Balumbie belonging to the E. of Panmure second Brother his Designation is erased.

Westhall with a Dovecoat is delete, Addition is M<sup>r</sup> John Guthrie of Westhall.

Maynes) after Residence and Title, is added, now belonging to the Marquish of Douglass.

Telling) Maxwell is delete. Addition, lately purchast by Scrimzeor Kirkcoun late provest of Dundee.

Ouchterhouse) belongs to the E. of Strathmore's brother M<sup>r</sup> Patrick. Addition. Lúndie Duncan now Heretor in this Parish.

Liff Parish. The Lands in the Parish) and most of them of old belonged to the Abbacie of Scoon by the donation of King Alex<sup>r</sup> 1. in the Chartour of foundation of the Abbey.

Strathmartine. The Laird of Strathmartine) were Chief of the name of Wyntoun, Addition. now belonging to Alex<sup>r</sup> Duncan.

Lundie) Added. Lately purchest by Duncan of Lundie.

Bervie) alteration and now to the Lord Gray. that to the E. of Lauderdale is delete, another alteration. Is a part of the ancient Barony of Panmure. After Lauderdale patron is added and now to Lord Gray the heritor and tutor.

Eassy and Nevoy) The Heirs of the late Lord Couper. Added. The Lairds of Drumkilbo. Nairn is now Proprietor.

ibidem. Kirkcoun of Eassie &<sup>c</sup> now to M<sup>r</sup> Alex<sup>r</sup> Foulles.

ibid. All thir Parishes &<sup>c</sup> Laird of Nevay patron.

278. Couper) The Town of Couper is in Perthshire and pertains to the Lord Balmerino as Lord Couper.

Ruthven a litle Parish belonging altogether to a Gentleman of the name of Crichton) Clunie Crichton a Cadet of the house of Frendrich. Clunie was Crichton.

ibid. Nether Airlie. The Barony of Baickie) Baikie and some other lands there belong to one M<sup>r</sup> John Arrat.

Kingoldrum. Persie Ogilvy, Persie Lindsay) The Pearsies belong now to John Edward, lately sold to M<sup>r</sup> John Galloway.

Fearne. The Parish belongs) mostly &<sup>c</sup>.

ibid. Carraldstone) belongs now to John Stuart of Gairntullie.

ibid. Sir Alex<sup>r</sup> Carnegy &<sup>c</sup>) doted a stipend from the Margin and obtained a stipend out of the Bishoprick of Brechin from the King.

ibid. Patron) Laird Gairtillie.

Menmuir) a part of the Parish belongs to the Laird of Balnamoon. Addition is, a part of it to Gairntillie.

ibid. Navar belongs to the E. of Panmure) and Garntullie.

ibid. Balnamoon hath a house in it called Tilliebirmie. is delete.

Brechin) To Add a Description of the Castle of Brechin as now repaired with an account of the Earl of Panmures Offices of Constabulary and Justiciary of the Burgh of Brichen and of his being Justiciar of the Waters of North and South Esk.

Peart—belongeth equally to Sir John Falconer of Galraw and James Scot of Logie) who Proprietor to be inquired.

Logie. Logie Scots a good estate thereabout) now purchest by Alex<sup>r</sup> Dempster Merch<sup>t</sup> in Montrose.

Inchbraik) Baldovie a Gentleman's House of the name of Dundass. Alteration. of Rainie.

ibid. Dunynald belonging to Thomas Allardice &c) altered 279. To Scot brother to Craig.

Marytoun. Bonnetoun belonging to Sir John Wood) now to James Miln Provost of Muntross.

ibid. Kinnaird and Farnell. Both these Parishes belong) almost intirely to the E. of Southesk.

ibid. Some of them Lords of Session.

Kinnell. Easter Braickie belonging to Alex<sup>r</sup> Pyper.

Innerkillor. Ethie grandfather) altered great grand father.

ibid. Breyingtoun belonging to Hay.

Lounane. Innerlounane belonging to Ogilvy) 4 brother Inner Carity.

ibid. St Vigeans. Moorhouse belonging to) M<sup>r</sup> Patrick Ouchterlony, son (to the Laird of Guind.

ibid. Wester Seatoun-Craufurd.

Abirlot. This paragraph delete.

There is a Note of Kellie a part to be taken in here, in place of what is scored.

Carmyllie, Guynd &c belongs to John Ouchterlony, descended

of the Ouchterlony of Cairnie, who were Cadets. Lineal successor &c delete.

ibid. Cononsyth belonging to a Gentleman of the name of Dickieson.

280.

## A GENERAL GEOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION of ZETLAND.

This Island hath several denominations. By the Norwegians it is called Yeltland, because in old time the Inhabitants here, made a kind of course Cloth, named Yelt, which was carried to Norway and sold there. By the Scots and English, it is called Shetland, because in old time, there were many Sheath-fish caught about its Coast. And by the Hollanders it is called Hetland, because as in old time, so now it is covered with Heather.

However it be now named, yet it is certain, it must be that old Thule so frequently mentioned by the Poets; as *Tibi serviat Ultima Thule* by Virgil; *nec sit terris Ultima Thule* by Seneca; For 1. Heylyn in his Geography on Ysland declares, that Solinus sayes, *Multae sunt circa Britanniam Insulae, equibus Thule Ultima*: consequently this Island must be one of the British Isles. And again that Tacitus sayes *Insulas, quas Orcadas vocant, invenit domuitque; dispecta est et Thule*: and therefore this true Thule cannot be far from Orkney. 2. Ross in his Virgilius Evangelizans not only agrees with Heylyn, but adds more to the Confirmation hereof, whose words are *Revera Shetlandia Scotorum regno subjecta est ipsissima Thule, quam ideo nautae Thileusel vocant. Elevatio Poli cum Ptolomaica exacte consentit, et opponitur Bergen Norvegiarum, & moreover adds Haec vera esse experientia comperi: transegi namq. tres menses aestivos in hac Thule*. And truly the middle part of this Countrey answereth in latitude to Bergen in Norway: for the south end of it lyeth under the 60 and the north end of it under the 61 degree of North Latitude and lyeth under the 24 degree of Longitude. About the Æstival Solstice here is no darkness; yea a moneth

before and after it, if the Horizon be any thing clear, all the night time one can read a Letter.

The length of it, running nearest South and North, is 60 miles, which beginneth at Soundbrough-head Southward, & endeth at the Skae of Unst Northward. The breadth of it, running nearest East and West is sixteen or eighteen miles, <sup>281.</sup> where it is broadest, which beginneth at Bressay Eastward, and endeth at Walls, Westward. but where it is narrowest, it is but one mile broad, which is at Quarffdale.

To the South south west of it, especially from Soundbrough-head some 26 or 28 miles lyes the Fair Isle famous for the shipwrack of the Duke of Medina, Admiral of the Spanish Armado 1588. Here is no Harbour for Ships save a little Bay, that lyeth on the North north East end of the Isle, only for the Summer time.

To the West of Zetland especially from Scalloway, some 20 miles, but from Walls some 8 or ten miles, lyeth the Isle Fowlaye wherein is a Promontory called Lorafield, which hath a perpendicular Hole never yet sounded, though sometimes attempted and tried. The Fair Isle and Fowlaye are high lands. This last lyeth to the former North West and by North some 8 Dutch miles. In Fowlaye there is no Road or Harbour for ships.

This Island or Countrey of Zetland for the most part is highly Rocky on the Shore, and very mountainous up in the land the superficies whereof is covered with Heather, and under the same is abundance of Turff or Peet ground special good for fire-fewel.

Its Inhabitants are distinguished into the Clergy and Laity. The Clergy or Ministry, in customes, fashions and manners joyntly agree with those of the Ministry of the Mainland of Scotland.

The Laity is distinguished into the Gentry and Commualty. They of the Gentry in customes, fashions, and manners almost agree with those of the Gentry of the Mainland of Scotland, from whence at first they did come, save that they seldom unanimously bestir themselves for the promoting and manage- <sup>282.</sup> ment of a publick good, and are much given to tipling and drinking; *Bibacissimi* &<sup>c</sup> as Maginus characterizeth the Orcades.



They of the Communalty, the Native Inhabitants, being descended from the Norwegians generally having a Patronymical surname, are nimble of body, docile, hospital, dissembling, flattering, false, and lascivious. They speak among themselves a corrupt Nords Tongue called Norn, but not so much now as formerly. Generally they are healthfull, being of a wholesome constitution. The Physicians use not to get great employment among them. The Women generally are well favoured, and much given to vertue and frugality. The Vulgar commonly live till they be five, six, or seven score years of age.

Here man and woman, Husband and Wife, Parent and Child, Master and Servant yea young and old are much given to snuffing and smoking Tobacco.

The greatest part of their food in the summer time is Fish and Milk, whereof as profitable use is made as any where else; and in the Winter they feed strongly on Fleshes.

This Countrey being good for Pasturage; it is well, but it hath been better stored with Horses, Neat, Sheep, Hog and Coneys. The Horses are of a little sise and excellent mettell: for one of them will easily carry a man or woman 20 miles a day; and they will live [till] they be 20 or 30 years of age though they be never stabled Summer or Winter. The Neat, both Oxen and Kine, are of a considerable sise lesser than these of England, but greater than these of Orkney, Caithness, or the Northmost places of Scotland. The Sheep, most of them being unhorned are generally black and speckled, rough-wooled, which is not shorn as in other Countreys, but about midsummer is pulled off. The Hogs are of a middle size, which for the most part feed on the mountains and the Coneys  
 283. being of a light brown colour, feed on Grass-Links and holmes.

Here are no Hares or Foxes; neither Asps, Snakes, Adders, Toads, Puddocks or any venomous creature. If Rats be brought hither by shipping, they will not live over a year or two. In several places here, Mice will not live.

Here are abundance of Selchs and Otters; a good skin of one of the latter will cost a Rix Doller or 3<sup>l</sup> Scots.

Here are some Whaps, Plovers and Ducks of all kinds with

a great resort of sea-fowls, who inhabite and nestle in the Rocks on the Shore.

Here are many ravenous Fowls as Eagles, Ravens and Crows. In old time here they so multiplied, that the Fondé or Sheriff made an Act, That whosoever at the Head Court, brought in an Eagle's head, from each having Sheep in that Pasture, he should have a Merk; whosoever brought in a Raven's head, should have an half Merk; and whosoever brought in a Crow's head, should have fourty pennies Scots.

In several places here are good Falcons and each year His Ma<sup>ties</sup> Falconer repairing thither receiveth their Brood.

In this Countrey, the Corn-land is so little, that, where the sea bounds not, it is diked round about. And no other grain grows here but that of Oats and Beer, which would not sustain the third of the Inhabitants one year; which defect is supplied by Scotland and Orkney, who in the summer time bringing the Victual hither, receive therefore money & other Countrey-Commodities.

There are no Parks here, but in many places excellent Meadow ground, where yearly about Lammas<sup>s</sup> is mowed abundance of good Hay.

There are no Woods or Forrests here. But it would seem that there hath been such in old time, because that in several places of this Countrey are found under ground great Roots and long Trunks of Trees. There is not to be seen here a Tree now of two or three fathoms long. Only in the Yard of Scalloway there are some few Shrubs.

Here hath not been any memorable Battel fought; but <sup>284.</sup> there have been several Broyls and private Skirmishes not worth the noticing, far less recording.

It is supposed that there are some Copper and Brass Mines here; but where they ly, that is not as yet known.

As for any ancient Monuments, there are none here; but only in several places of the Countrey, there are long stones erected, called by the Inhabitants, Standing Stones, pitched as it is thought, upon the account of Slaughter or murder committed in that individual place.

As for any Rarities, there are very few here; save that it is

very credibly reported, that there is a Hillock beside Schall-dister in Whalsey, whereupon if a Mariners Compass, be set, it will so much vary that the North point will turn to the South : but remove it a foot hence, or a very little distance, and it will keep its true pointing. The like is observed in Fettlar on the Chappel-Wall of Old Staye. In this Countrey also are muscles and Oysters, wherein are found good Pearls.

Here are many Lochs stored with Eels and common speckled Trouts, also several Springs and Rivulets ; but it is not as yet known if the Water of any of them be Medicinal.

The Houses here are all built of rough & unhewn stone, not the smallest Cottage excepted, the common and ordinary thacking is of a kind of Divet, called by the Inhabitants Flais, and Straw and Simmons above the same which is yearly renewed by the respective Owners about Hallow Mass, Some Houses are thacked with deals. There are but only four Houses here thacked with Slate.

Here are two Castles to wit the Castle of Scalloway built by Earle Patrick Stewart anno 1600 now become ruinous ; the Castle of Moraness in Unst built by Laurence Bruce son to Coppina Lindie whose Heirs possess the same to this day.

285. Here is a Fort at Lerwick on the Westside of Bressa-Sound built at the King's Maties expence Anno 1666, the Houses wherein, were burnt by the Hollander Anno 1673.

Here are also many old Fabricks erected, as it is supposed, by the ancient Picts, when driven out from Scotland. These have been built in a Pyramidal fashion, with a winding Stair within to the top ; in the bottom whereof were diverse Cells, all vaulted above, from the top of which when there was any imminent danger, they made a sign by fire one to another. The like they did from Promontories or Wart Hills. But all these Fabricks now are very ruinous and called they are by the Inhabitants Brughes.

In old time the sea about this Coast was well stored with all common sort of fishes, as Mackrels, Herrings, Lings, Cods, Haddocks, Whittings, Sheaths but especially with Podlines, i.e. young Sheaths, called by the Inhabitants Pelltacks, which in fair weather would come so near to the shore, that men yea and children, from the Rocks with Fishing-rods could catch

them in abundance. But all kinds of Fishing is greatly decayed here notwithstanding that greater pains is taken by the Fishers now than ever before, who with small Norway Yoolls, two or three men in each of them, will adventure to the far sea and oft times endure hard weather.

Here in the Summer time is caught an excellent kind of fish on the Eastside of the Countrey, particularly on the Northeast & South East of Bressay, called by the Inhabitants Briss-macks by the Hollanders Lump, and by the Scots and English Tusk.

About the whole Coast here, there is a strong Current of Tide-gate.

Upon the East & Westsides of this Countrey a South south east Moon maketh High Water, only at Soundbrough-head a South or a South and by East Moon maketh High Water.

This Countrey is well accommodated with excellent Bays <sup>286</sup> and Roads very commodious and secure for all kind of shipping, the ground being clean, naturally inclining to a sandy Clay, and the Water considerably deep. Here are no dry Harbours as in Scotland, and other places; but in several places, ships can be safely brought aground and bett.

The Shore here sometimes casts up Whales, Ships and driven Timber, upon which the Admiral-Deputes seise and make all their Own: and they that are nearest neighbours oft-times smart by the by.

The Product of this Countrey is mainly Fish, Oyl, Butter, Wool, Feathers, Beef, Tallow, Hides, Stuff, Stockings, and Woolen gloves and Garters. In old time, there was a considerable Trade kept here but now is greatly decayed, which is imputed both to the scarcity of the Commodities themselves, and to the Publicans exorbitant Exactions. At this day only a few Hamburgers and Bremers use a small traffick-ing in it. Heretofore in the years of Peace, the Hollanders did great good here: for coming upon the Coast, fishing herring, they used to arrive in Bressay-Sound to the number of ten or fifteen hundred sail, and buy from the Inhabitants, Stuffs, Stockings, Woolen Gloves and Garters in



abundance, for the Which they delivered either money or any other Commodity they stood in need of.

The Civil Government here, since ever this Countrey was annexed to the Crown of Scotland which was in the Year of God 1266, hath been under Fowdrie or Sheriffship till the Year of God 1669, when it was with Orkney erected in a Stewardry and so continueth.

287. The Seat of Justice is in the Mäties House the Castle of Scallowaye, where yearly the Steward or his Depute keep two Head Courts; the one at Crossmass, and the other at Hallowmass; besides Circuits and other particular Courts as necessary occasions require.

Nota. In each Ministry, at leask in each Parish, the Stewart doth substitute a particular Bailie for deciding smaller affairs of Neighbour-hood betwixt man and man: but all matters of importance are brought before the Steward, or his Depute, and the said Baillie is still to be personally present at the two Head-Courts.

The Church Government here, since ever the Reformation hath been Presbytery, subordinate to the Bishop of Orkney and Zetland. The Ministers are in number eleven, who meet but four times a year, to wit on the first Wednesday of each Quarter.

Nota. Their travell is great & dangerous, their stipends but small. five of them are payed by Laick Vicars in money yearly, the other six who have their Vicarages in their own hands, are payed by the people in Fish, Oyl, Butter, Wool, Lambs, & such like Countrey Commodities.

This I had from Mr Hugh Leigh Minister  
of the Gospel in Brasie and Buro.

JOHN MARR.


A BROKEN CROSS in REVEL CHURCH in 288.  
ANNANDALE, May 18, 1699.

The Length 4 foot and three Inches. Breadth at the top, one foot and three Inches; at the bottom 1 foot and six Inches.

The Pedestal, in Murray's Quire, hath the bottome of the Inscriptions with some few more Images on the Latin side.

TWO LATIN MONUMENTS in the LIBRARY  
at the COLLEGE of GLASGOW.

IMP.C.T.ÆLIO
HADRIANO. ANTO
NINO. AUG. PP.
VEX. LEG. VI. VIC.
P.F. OPVS VALLI.
P 00 8 001 00 CXLI.

A.P.C.T. AE	
ADRIANO	
NTONINO	
G PI. O. P.P.	
EG. XXVV	
IDXI.	
	Deus Term (as it seems) or Victory with Wings on his shoulders.

Both given by Mr W. Hamilton of Orbeston  
in the Year 1695.

This Page is from a loose Paper apart  
whereon are many Runnic Letters.

PREUVE de L'ESCOSSSE FRANÇOISE 289.

Quant aux alliances de la France et de l'Escosse regnant Charlemaigne et Achaius, vous le trouveres amplement declarées au second livre de Veremonduis, et au dixiesme livre de Hector Boetius Historiens Escossois et du depuis colligées

par David Chambres Con<sup>er</sup> en la Cour de Parlement d'Edimbourg en Escosse et presentées par le dict Chambres au Roy de France Charles Neufiesme a Blois le 12 d'Avril l'an de Grace 1572.

La Confirmation de l'Alliance entre Louys le debonnaire Roy de France et Alpin Roy d'Escosse est escript par les susdicts Autheurs en l'Histoire du dict Alpin.

Charles le Gros Roy de France et Gregoire Roy de Escosse confirmerent l'alliance suivant les susdicts Autheurs et Selon Cuspinian. Charles espousa Richarde fille du Roy d'Escosse, ce j'avois obmis, d'insever en ma Recherche.

Les susdicts Autheurs rapportent la Confirmation de l'Alliance, et mutuelle assistance entre Philippes premier Roy de France et Malcolmus Kanmor Roy d'Escosse.

La Confirmation de l'Alliance des deux Royaulmes est Escripte par les susdicts Autheurs. Et quant a l'Entreveue de Louys 7 Roy de France et de Guillaume Roy d'Escosse, pour accorder les Enfans d'Angleterre avec Henry second leur Pere, vous le trouveres dans l'Histoire de France escripte par Nicolas Gilles et Denis de Sauvage en l'Histoire du dict Louys, la dicte guerre et la accord d'icelle est mentionné dans l'Histoire d'Angleterre en la Vie du dict. Henry, & comme les susdicts Enfans suvent assistes par les susdicts Roys de France et d'Escosse.

La dicte Alliance confirmée par Philippes August Roy de France et le dict Guillaume Roy d'Escosse, avec le secours envoye a la terre sainte, est escripte par Hector Boëtius Escoissois en son Histoire Livre 3. et au cinquiesme Livre de Polydorus Virgilius.

290. L'Alliance entre la France et l'Escosse et augmentation d'icelle d'un Article par Louys huitiesme Roy de France et Alexandre second Roy d'Escosse, escripte par Hector Boëtius au 3 livre de son Histoire d'Escosse.

L'Alliance renouvelée, et tout ce qui se passa entre St. Louys Roy de France et Alexandre 3 Roy d'Escosse, vous le trouveres dans les Histoires d'Escosse, et amplement dans le treiziesme livre de Hector Boëtius, et au cinquiesme livre de Suention.

La dicte Alliance et augmentation d'icelle, et Mariage à dessus tramé par Philippes le Bel Roy de France, et Robert

Roy d'Escosse est rapporté par Hector Boëtius en son 14 livre de l'Histoire d'Escosse, Paul Emile, et les Annales de France en l'Histoire du dict Philippes le Bel.

Tous les susdicts Autheurs rapportent la Confirmation de l'Alliance entre Charles le Bel Roy de France et le susdict Robert Roy d'Escosse.

Ce que j'ay rapporté de Philippes de Valois Roy de France et de David Second Roy d'Escosse touchant le mariage de la Fille d'Angleterre, et ce qui en suivit, vous le trouveres es Annales de France escriptes par Nicolas Gilles et Dennis de Sauvage au Chapitre Comme le Roy retourna de Flanders a Paris et presenta son Cheval et Harnois en l'Eglise de nostre Dame. Et quant a l'Assistance personelle du dict Roy d'Escosse, envers le Roy de France, vous le trouveres dans Johan Fillius Historien François qui dict en ses mots parlant du Roy d'Escosse, lequel apres la Guerre s'estoit retiré dans son Royaume *Scotus æternus Francorum amicus reducitur domum.* Et de ce qui se passa entre le Roy de France et le Roy d'Espagne pour l'Election des Papes Clement et Urbain, et de l'affection inviolable du Roy d'Escosse envers le Roy de France, Paul Emile dict en ses mots. *Sed Scotus fœderatus* 291. *Franco constante inexpugnabilique voluntate nunquam variavit.* Polydorus Virgilius en son Histoire d'Angleterre parlant du dict Roy d'Escosse dict, que les Escossois sont comme une Fleche preste d'estre tirée selon la volonté des Roys de France. Hector Boëtius en son Histoire d'Escosse rapporte beaucoup de choses que je n'ay pas mis dans mon Recherche.

La Ratification de l'Alliance entre Charles cinquiemes Roy de France et Robert Roy d'Escosse, et Secours envoyé en Escosse, est Escript par Belforest en son neufumesme livre de l'Histoire des neuf Roys Charles et les Annales d'Escosse, qui disent le mesme.

Ceste incomparable Alliance fut confirmée par Charles sixiesme Roy de France et Robert Roy d'Escosse, le grand secours envoyé diverses sois en France, la Bataille de Bauge gagnée par les Escossois, & la liberalité de Charles envers les dicts Escossois se trouvera es Annales de France escriptes par Gilles, du Sauvage et du Haillan et mesme es Annales d'Escosse



au discriptione livre de Hector Boëtius et au septieme livre de Messire Johan de Lesly Evesque de Ross.

Le Mariage de Louys Dauphin de France avec la Fille du Roy d'Escosse tramé par Charles septiesme son frere se trouve escript par Belforest en son treiziesme livre de l'Histoire des neuf Roys Charles et dans les Annales de France escriptes par Gilles, du Sauvage en la Vie de Charles Septiesme, et en l'Histoire d'Escosse au dixseptiesme livre de Hector Boëtius. Et quant a la Courtoisie inestimable du dict Charles 7 Roy de France envers les deux filles d'Escosse qui viendrent en France, vous le trouveres dans les Annales de France escriptes par Gilles et du Sauvage en la Vie du dict Charles, et au Chapitre de la mort de la susdicte Royne Dauphine.

Quant aux bons services de Gardes Escossois envers le dict Louys 11 Roy de France, lises Philippes de Commines et vous trouveres beaucoup plus que je n'ay mis en ma Recherche; et Polydorus en son Histoire d'Angleterre qui dict Scotus certus et perpetuus Francorum Socius.

292. Quant a ce qui se passa entre Charles Huictiesme, l'assistance qu'il receu des Escossois durant les Guerres d'Italie, lises Belforest en son 14 livre de l'Histoire des neuf Roys Charles, et Philippes Commines au Chapitre de la Bataille de Fornocio.

Si vous desires voir la preuve des choses dignes de memoire conferes entre Louys douziesme Roy de France et Jacques 4<sup>me</sup> Roy d'Escosse, lises l'Histoire de France escripte par Gilles et Sauvage en la Vie du dict Louys et Jehan du Tilhet Historien de France.

Et quant a ce qui j'ay escript de François premier, Henry Second, Francois Second, Charles neufliesme Henry treisiesme et les Roys d'Escosse qui regnerent pendant leur temps, il n'y a point lieu de contredict. Car outre ce que tous les susdicts Historiens en ont escript, les affaires sont fort recentes & pour la plus part ont esté veues par des personnes qui sont encore en vie.

Les Escossois, qui se trouvent avoir esté pourvus par les Roy de France aux dignites Ecclesiastiques, que j'avois obmis de nommer par ma Recherche, suivant les susdicts Autheurs et Mr. Servin Advocat du Roy en ses Playdoyers sont Messire André de Forman Archevesque de Bourges.

Messire Alexandre de Cobron aussi Archevesque de Bourges et Doyen de Clery.

Messire David de Bethune Cardinal d'Arbroth, Archevesque de St Andre & Primat d'Escosse eut d'un Roy de France l'Evesche de Mirepoix.

Messire David de Panthere Evesque de Ross fut Abbé de Lassay en Poitou.

Messire Jacques de Bethune Archevesque de Glasco & Ambassadeur pour le seu Roy d'Escosse en France eut la susdicte Abbaye de Lassay & le Prioré de St. Pierre a Ponthoize, ce qu'il posseda jusques a la fin de ses jours.

Messire Jehan de Liviston fut Abbé de Clerac en Agenois. 293.

Messire Jehan de Lesley Evesque de Ross fut Doyen en l'Archevesche de Rouen; sans infinité d'autres et a present es autres charges.

David de Blaquevod Conseiller au siege Presidial a Poitiers.

Jacques de Cadan, Docteur Regent du Roy en l'Université de Toulouse.

Robert de Balfour Principal du College de Guyenne a Bourdeaux.

Thomas de Barclay Docteur Regent et Principal du College de l'Esquille a Tolose.

David Abernetheus Principal du College a Montpellier & Lecteur du Roy es Mathematiques.

de Chryton Professeur du Roy en Grec a Paris.

de St Clar Professeur du Roy en Mathematiques a Paris.

Jehan de Lesley Chanoine en l'Archevesque de Rouën.

Jehan de Fraser Prieur de en Brie.

Il y a 3 ou 4 Chanoines Escossois a Cinquantin, sans un nombre infini d'autres Escossois, qui ont des conditions & charges honorables en France.

294.

# GÈNEALOGIES of the CHIEFF CLANS of the ILES collected By me Sir DONALD MONRO Heighe Deane of the Isles.

Imprimis. Clandonald and of them 5 branches in the Iles, by branches smaller.

First Donald Gormesone his kin are called of surname Iuscheon that is to say the successione of Huscheone M'Donald, quhom of they descendit and sprange. Therfor this man is called Donald M'Donald Gorme, Vic Donald Gurmache, Vic Donald Gorvaiche, Vic Huscheon quho wes sone to Alexander of Ila Erle of Rosse and Lord of the Iles, as the heighland men calls King of the Iles.

And this Alexander wes sone to Donald Earle of Rosse by the Marriage of Walter Lesley Earle of Rosse daughter and heire. And this Earle Donald wes the Earle of memorye that of the Clanronald justly brukit Rosse.

And this Donald wes the stocke quherfra Clanronald were named last in ther names quha wes sone to Jhone of Ila, and of the best that came of that sorte, quho had the Stewarte to his wyffe, mother to this Donald forsaide.

This Jhone of Ila wes sone to Angus M'Angus, Vic Donald fra quhome they were called first and of auld Clandonald.

This Donald wes the sone of Raynald M'Somerle or Somerledi fraquhome they were for a quhile named and called Clan Somerle.

295. This Somerle wes the sone of Gillebryde M'GilleAdam-name, Vic Sella, Vic Mearhaighe, Vic Swyffine, Vic Malhussa, Vic Eacime, Vic Gothofred fra quhome they were called at that time Clan Gothofreid that is Clan Gotheray in Hybers Leid, and were verey grate men in that tymes of Zeire, and ay on called Clangothey, quhill Donald Gorme quhom I last made mentione.

Gotheray wes the sone of Fergus, M'Erich, Vic Cartayne, Vic Ethoy, Vic Thola Craisme, Vic Ethoy de Wiff Leist or Ethodius, Vic Frathriquerwy or Fratherus, Vic Claipre Liffchuyr or Corbredus, Vic Chrorin weet Alada, or Cormacus, Vic Airt Lermeche King of Ireland maist royall in all his Actions

Vic ChwynChedchahoy or Condus Centibellus king of Ireland a royall Prince and Lyon like in all his actions of warre of quhome I make the stoke in Ireland for that he is lineally discendit of Gathelus Seed.

### CLAN EANMORE

The second house of the Clandonald.

Sir James Macconeill of Kyntyre is the second house of the Isles quho is sone of Alexander McJhone, Vic Anald or Agnaldi, Vic Ean (or Johannis Vic Donald Ballay, Vic Ean of quhom they are called to surname Sleight Ean Moira) successio Johannis Magni, quho wes sone to Johne the best Lord of the Isles as I have said offen befor quho had the Stewartes daughter to his Ladey. Heir I imp<sup>e</sup> this branche to the tree justly as is afforsaid.

### CLAN RAGNALD

The third housse of the Clandonald.

Johne Moydeortreiche is the sone of Alexander Mac Allan or filius Alani, Vic Rorey or Roderici, Vic Ean or Johanis, Vic <sup>296</sup> Ragnald or Riginaldi quhome I imp<sup>e</sup> to this good Johne of Ila his father forsaid. Heir sprouted twa branches of the tree at once that is the Clan Ean-moire, and the Clan ragnald.

Clan-Ean of Ardnamorachin the fourte house of the Clan donald.

Alexander McDonald or Donaldi, McEan or Johannis, McAloir or Alexandri, McAngus, McEan Achechterwache, McAngus Moire quho wes the Lord of the Iles, and him I imp<sup>e</sup> to the tree.

Alexander Carrath, the fyfte Housse of Clan Donald.

Neirest this discendit from the House of Clandonald is Alexander Carrath that is Shawit Alexander sua that be the Countries Custome, because the Heighland men called the fairest hared men Chewit Man, and the Chewit the hared and sua furthe, for this Alexander wes the fairest hared man as they say, of aney that ever was; And this Alexander wes



brother to this Donald of the Isles forsaide and to Jhone Moire fra quhome James of Kyntyre descendit, and brother of the father syde to Ragnald of quhome the Clanranald.

And this Carrath hes maney come of him and good succession in Lochaber called Clan Ranald, M<sup>c</sup>Donald Glasse, Vic Alexander quhilk bruikes a pairt of Locheaber sinsyne.

Ther wes by thir I have wretten offen Johnne Gothofred and Angus, the quhilke had nae succession.

FINIS.

97.

A DESCRIPTION of the WESTERNE ILES OF SCOTLAND called HYBRIDES. Compyled by MR. DONALD MONRO Deane of the Iles. 1549.

A Description Insularum Orchadiarum. per Jo. BEN Resident there. Anno 1529.

298.

A DESCRIPTION of the WESTERNE ISLES of SCOTLAND by MR. DONALD MONRO, quho travelled through maney of them in Anno 1549.

MAN. 1.

First in the Irland seas fornent the poynt of Galloway neirest betwixt Scotland, England and Irland lyes the first Iyle of the

said's Iles, callit in Latine Tongue Mona & Sodora in English Man in Erische Manain. Whilk sometime, as auld Historiographers sayes, was wont to be the Seat first ordynit by Fynan King of Scottis to the Priest and the Philosophers called in Latine Druides in English Culdeis and Kildeis that is Worshippers of God, in Erishe Leid Draiche, quhilks were the first Teachers of Religion in Albion. Quherinto is the Cathedrall of the Bishop of Man and Iles dedicate, in the honor of St. Peter the Apostle. This Ile is 24 myles lange and 8 myle braid with twa Castellis.

### ELSAY 2.

Northwart from this Ile of Man be 60 myles of sea Layes Elsay, ane Iyle of ane myle lange, quherin is ane grate high hill round and roughe and ane heavin, and als abundance of Soland geisse and ane small poynt of ane nesse, quherat the fishing bottis lyis, for the same Ile werey good killing, ling and uther whyte fishes. Fornent this Ile layes Carrick on the southest pairt, Ireland on the southwest pairt and the landis of Kintyre on the West and Northwest pairt. The said Elsay being neirhand midsea betwix the saids Marches.

### ARRAN. 3.

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Be North or Northeist fra this Ile be 24 myles of sea lyes Arran ane grate Ile, full of grate Montans and forrests, good for hunting with part of woods extending in lenthe from the Kyle of Arran to Castle Dounan southwart to 24 myles and from the Kyle of Drumdoun to the Ness of Kilbride 16 myles of breadthe inhabit onlie at the seacoasts. heirin are thre Castils. ane callit Braizay pertening to the Earle of Arran, ane uther auld house callit the Castle of the heid of Lochrenasay pertyning likways to the said Earl, and the thrid callit Castle Douan pertening to ane of the Steuart of Bute's blood callit Mr James, he and his bluid are the best men in that Countrey. In Arran is a Loche callit Lochrenasay with three or four small waters. Twa paroch kirks the ane callit Kilbride, the uther callit Kilmure. Fornent this Isle layes

the Coste of Kyle in the Eist and southeist be ten or 12 myles of sea in the North, Bute, be 8 myles of sea in the West, Skibnesse, pertening to the Erle of Argyle.

FLADA. 4. MOLASS. 5.

Upone the Shore of this Iyle layes Flada, ane litle yle full of Cunings, with ane uther litle Ile called the Yle of Molas quherin ther wes foundit by Johne Lord of the Iles, ane monastery of Friars which is decayit.

BUITT. 6.

The Iyle of Buitt lyes as we have said before, be 8 myles of sea to the Northeist of Arran, ane mayne Iyle 8 myle lange from the North to the Southe, and 4 myle braid fra the West to the Eist, very fertyl ground, namelie for aitts, with twa strenthes the one is the round Castle of Buitt callit Rosay of the auld and Borroustone about it callit Buitt. Before the toun and Castle is ane Bay of Sea quhilk is ane guid heavin for ships to ly upon ankers. That uther Castle is called the Castle of 300. Kames, quhilk Kames in Erische is alsmeikell as to say in English the Bay Castle. In this Ile ther is twa parochie kirks that ane Southe called the Kirk of Bride, the uther northe in the Borrowstone of Buitt with twa Chappells; ane of them above the towne of Buitt, the uther under the forsaid Castle of Kames. On the North and Northwest of this Ile be halfe myle of sea, lyes the Cost of Ergyle, on the Eastsyde of it, the Coast of Cuninghame be 6 myle of sea.

INCHE MERNOCKE. 7.

On the West southwest of it layes ane litle Iyle callit Inche Mernocke twa myle fra sea, low mayne ground, weill inhabit and manurit, ane myle lange and halfe myle breadthe.

CUMBRA. 8.

One the eist and southeast lyes ane yile callit Cumbray

inhabit and manurit, 3 myle in lenth and ane myle in breadthe with ane kirk callit Sanct Colmis kirke.

### CUMBRAY DAIS. 9.

Besides this lyes ane Iyle callit Cumbray of the Dais because there is maney dayis intill it.

### AVOYN. 10.

Befor the south poynt of the promontory of Kintyre lyes be ane myle of sea, ane Iyle neire ane myle lange callit the Iyle of Avoyn quhilk Iyle is obtenit that name fram the armies of Denmark, quhilkis armies callit it in their leid Havin. It is inhabit and manurit and guid for shippis to lay one ankers.

### CARRITH-SKEATHE. 11.

Fornent this Iyle one the shore of Kyntyre layes ane Iyle with a Castle namet Carrick Skeath with ane litle water quherin is ane guid havin for small bottis.

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### RACHLAIN. 12.

On the southwest fra the Promontory of Kyntyre upon the Coast of Irland be four myle to land layes ane Iyle callit Rachlaine, pertaining to Irland and possessit thir money zeires by Clandonald of Kyntyre 4 myle lange and twa myle braide, guid land inhabit and manurit.

### CARAY. 13.

Upon the Northwest coist of Kyntyre be 4 myle of sea to the same lyes ane litle Iyle, with a Chapell in it callit Caray, guid for quhite fishes, abundant of Cunings, inhabit and manurit, mair nor ane myle lange and ane halfe myl braid.

### GIGAY. 14.

At the heid of the Iyle Caray, therfra Northeist, layes ane Iyle callit Gigay sex myle lange, ane myle halfe myle breidth, with ane paroche kirke, guid fertile maineland, it has therin abundance of Eddirs. The auld Thane of Gigay should be



Laird of the same callit McNeill of Gigay, and now it is possessit by the Clandonald. Streitest at the shore of Kyntyre from southwest to northeist in lenth, 4 myle of sea from Kyntyre.

#### DURAY. 15.

Nairest that Yile layes Duray ane uther fyne forrest for Deire. Inhabit and manurit at the Coist syde, part be Clandonald of Kyntyre, pairt be MacGullayne of Douard pairt be McGullayne of Kenlochbuy, pairt be McDuffithie of Colvansay, ane Iyle of 24 myle of lenth lyand from the Southwest to the  
 302. Northeist be 12 myle of sea from Gigay above writtin and ane myle from Ila quher is twa Loches meitand uthers throughe Mide Iyle of Salt Watter to the lenth of ane haff myle; and all the Deire of the West pairt of that forrest will be callit be tainchess [tainchels] to that narrow entres and the next day callit West againe be tainchess through the said narrow entres, and infinit Deire slaine ther, pairt of small Woods. This Iyle, as the ancient Iyllanders alledges should be callit Deiray taking the name from the Deire in Norne Leid quhilk has given it that name in auld times. In this Iyle there is twa guid and save raids for shippis, the ane callit Lubnaleirey and the uther Loche Terbart fornent uthers. The gratest hills in this Iyle are chieffie Bencheillis, Bensenta, Corben, Benannoyre, in Ardlagsay ane Chappell sometime the Paroch kirk Kiternadill. The Watter of Laxay ther, the Water of Udergan, the wattir of Glongargister, the waters of Knockbraick, Lindill, Caray, Ananbilley. All thir Waters salmond slaine upon them. This Iyle is full nobell Coillis [? Coeltz] with certane fresche Water Loches with meikell of profit.

#### SKARBAY. 16.

Neires this Iyle be twa myle lyes ane Ile called Skarbay betwix thir twa Iyles ther runnes ane streame, above the power of all sailing and rowing with infinit dangers callit Corybrekan. This Streame is 8 myle lange, quhilk may not be hantit bot be certane tyds. This Skarbay is four myles lange from the west to the eist, and ane myle breadth, ane high rounge yle inhabit and manurit with some Woodes in it.

## VELICHE. 17.

Nairest the Iyle or Skarbay layis ane Iyle callit in Erishe <sup>303</sup>.  
Ellan Veliche unto the northeist.

## GELBRASTOLL. 18.

Narrist this layes the Iyle Gelbrastoll a verey little Isle.

## LUNGAY. 19.

Narrest to the Iyle of Gelbrastoll layes the Iyle callit  
Lungay.

## FIDLACHAILLE. 20.

Narrest the Iyle Lungay, ther ane Iyle callit Fidlachaille.

## FIDLAVIROW. 21.

Narrest to the Iyle of Fidlachaille ther layes ane Iyle callit  
in Erisch Fidlavirow.

## GAROWHELLACH SKEAIN. 22.

Narrist the Iyle of Fidlavirow, ther layes ane Iyle in Erishe  
namit Garowhellach-Skean.

## GAROWHELLACH NANRONOW. 23.

Narrest to this forsaid Iyle layes ane rockie knobe namit in  
Erische Garrowhellach Nanronow.

## NANAOSE. 24.

Narest to this Iyle of Garowhellach Nanronow layes ther a  
verey litle Iyle callit in Erische Elache Nanaose.

## CULIBRENYN. 25.

Narrest to the Iylland Nanaofe, layes ther the small Iylland  
callit in the Erische Leid Culibrenyn.

## DUCHONILL. 26.

Dunchonill ane Iyle so namit from Conall Kernache ane strenth wich is alsmeikl as to say in Englishe, ane round Castle.

## MADIE. 27.

Ellan Madie in Erische layes betwix Lungay and being callit in English the Wolfis Iyle.

## BELNACHNA. 28.

Narrest the Volfis Iyle layes ane Iylland callit in Erisch Leid Ellan Belnachna, quharin ther is fair Skailzie aneuche.

## VICKERAN. 29.

Narrest to the Iyle of Belnachna layes the small Iyle of Vickeran.

## NAGAWNA. 30.

Hard on the Iyle Vyckeran layes there a small Iylland namitt in Erisch Ellan Nagaruwa.

## LUNGE. 31.

Lunge 3 myle of lenthe, twa pairt myle of breadthe with a paroch kirk, guid main land inhabit and manurit, guid for store and Corne. Its possest be M<sup>c</sup>Gillayne of Doward in few fra the Erle of Ergile. It is a havin sufficient for heighland galeyis in it. Lyand from the Southwest to Northeist in lenthe.

## SEILL. 32.

305. Narrest this Iyle layes Seill, three myle of lenthe ane half myle breidth, Layand from the Southwest to the Northeist, inhabit and manurit guid for store and corne pertaining to the Erle of Ergyle.



## SEUNAY. 33.

Narrest this Iyle of Seill layes the Iyle Seunay twa myle in lenth and half myle in breadthe from Southwest to North-east. Inhabit and manurit, guid for gersing store and per-tening to the Erle of Ergyle.

## SKLAITT. 34.

Narrest Sewnay Layes ther a litle Iyle called in Erische Leid Ellan Sklaitt, wherin ther is abundance of Skalzie to be win.

## NAWISSOGE. 35.

Narrest this Iyle layes the smal Ile of Navissogue in Erische callit Ellan Nawissogue.

## EISDCALFE. 36.

Narrest this layes ther the Ile Eisdcalfe namit in the Erische Leid Ellan Eisdcalfe.

## INCHE KENYTH. 37.

Narest this Iyl layes ane Iylland namit Inche Kenithe.

## INCHIAN. 38.

Narrest this Iyle layes ane Iylland namit in Erish Leid Ellan Inchian.

## UDERGA. 39.

Narrest this forsaid Iyl of Incheian lyes ther ane uther verey small rock callit in Erish Leide Ellan Uderga.

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## KINGS IYLE. 40.

Narrest to the Iyl Uderga layes an Iyle callit in Erish Leid Ellan Righ that is in English the Kings Isle.

## BLACK IYLE. 41.

Narrest to the Kings Iyle layes ane Ile or rather a grate craig called in Erish Leid Ellan Duff, in English the Black Isle.



## KIRKE IYLE. 42.

Narrest the Blacke Iyle layes there ane Iyle callit in Erisch Leid Nahagleis and in English the Kirke Iyle.

## CHREARACHE. 43.

Narrest to this kirk Ile layes the Iyl Chrearache.

## ARDE. 44.

Neirest to Chrearache layes ther ane Iyle callit in the Erisch Leid Ellan Arde in English the Highe Iyle.

## LAICHE ILE. 45.

Narest to Arde layes ther ane Iyle callit in the Erish Leid Ellan Eisill in English the Laiche Iyle.

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## GREINE IYLE. 46.

Nerest this Laiche Isle layes ane Iyle namit in Erish Leid Glasellan that is in English the Green Yland.

## HEDDIR IYLE. 47.

Narrest the Green Yle layis the Yile which in the Erische Leid is namit Frewch-Ellan<sup>1</sup> or the Heddir Eyland.

## HASIL IYLE. 48.

Narrest the hedder Iyle layes ther another which in the Erish Lid is callit Ellan-na-Crawiche.

## GATIS ILES. 49.

Narist the Hasil Iyle layes ane rockie scabrous Iyle callit in the Erische Leid Ellan Nagonre which in English is the Gaytis Isle.

## CONINGS IYLE. 50.

Narrest to the Gaytis Iyle layes there a verey pretty litle sandey Iyle callit in the Erish Leid Ellan Nagenein which is in English the Conings Iyle.

<sup>1</sup> 'Frewch Ellan' interlined.—ED.

## IDYLE IYLE. 51.

Narrest the Conings Iyle layes the Iyle called be the Erish Ellan Dravin that is the Idyle Iyle.

## EISEL. 52.

308.

Narrest the Idle Iyle layes ther a laiche small Iyle namit by the Erisch Ellan Eisell or the Laich Iyle.

## URIDITH. 53.

Narrest to the aforsaid Iyland layes the Ile of the Erisch themselves callit Uridithe.

## LISMOIR. 54.

Lismoir ane Iyle quher leid ure is, fornent Douard. This Iyle is four myle lange with ane paroch kirke in it.

## ILA. 55.

Narrest this forsaid Iyle on the West syde of it Layes Ila, ane Ile of twentie mile lenthe from the North to the South and sixteen mile breadthe from the east to the West, fertill, fruitfull and full of naturall grassing, with maney grate Deire maney woods faire gaimes of hunting beside everey toune with ane watter called Laxay whereupon maney salmont are slaine, with ane Salt Watter Loch callit Lochegunord quherin runs the Watter of Gynord with high sandey banks upon the quhilk bankes upon the sea lyes Infinit Selcheis Whilks are slayne with doges learnit to the same effect. In Ila is meikle Lead Ure in Moychells. In this Iyle there is an guid raid for schipps callit in Erische Polmoir and in English the Meikill puill, this layes at ane toune callit Lantay Vanych. Ane uther 309. raid lyes within Ellan Grynard callit in English the Isle at the poynt of the Nesse, the Raid is callit Leodannis. Within this Iyle there is sundre fresch water Lochis sic as Lochmoy-burge wherein there layes ane Iyle perteing to the Bishopes of the Iyles. The Loch of Ellan Charrin quherin there is ane Iyle pertyning to M<sup>c</sup>Gillane of Doward. Loch Cherossa with ane Iyle perteing to the Abbot of Colmkill. In this Iyle

there is strenths Castells, the first is callit Dunovaik biggit on ane Craig at the sea side, on the Southeist pairt of the Countrey pertaining to the Clandonald of Kintyre; Second is callit the Castle of Lochgurne quhilk is biggit in ane Iyle within the said fresche Water Loche far fra land pertaining of auld to the Clandonald of Kintyre, now usurped be M<sup>c</sup>Gillayne of Doward. Ellan Forlagan in the midle of Ila ane faire Iyle in fresche watter.

#### EARNE IYLE. 56.

At the mouth of Kyle Ila betwixt it and Duray lyes ane Iyle callit in the Erische Leid Ellan Charne in Englishe the Iyle of Earne. Her begin wee to Circkell Iyla sune gaittis aboute with litle Iyles.

#### HASSILL IYLE. 57.

Neirest this southwardes layes ane Iyle callit in the Eirisch Leid Ellan Natravie in Englishe the Hessill Iyle.

#### MULMOYRYS ILE. 58.

Neirest that at the said shore of Ila layes there ane litle Iyle called Ellan M<sup>c</sup>Mulwray callit in English Mulmoryis Iyle.

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#### OFRIM. 59.

Narrest this at the said shore southwart lyes that Iyle called in Erische Ellam Ofrim.

#### BRYDES IYLE. 60.

Narrest to this at the said shore southwarte layes that Iyle which the Erishe name Ellan Birde in English Bryds Iyle.

#### CORS KER. 61.

Narrest this at the said shore layes ane litle Iyle by the Erische callit Cors Ker that is the Stay Skarey or Craige.

#### EISILACHE. 62.

Narrest to this is ther a small Iyle at the said shore of Ila wich the Erische call Ellan Eisillache that is the Laiche Iyle.

## IMERSKA. 63.

Narrest this layes the litle Iyland Imerska.

## BETHEY. 64.

Narrest to the Iyle Imerska layes that Iyle wich the Erische name Ellan Bethy.

## TEGSAY. 65

Narrest this layes at the south Cost of Ila ther is ane Iyle callit by the Erishe Tegsay ane myle of lenthe, guid maine land, and ane kirk in it, very guid it is for sheep and for fishing.

## SCHEIPIS IYLES. 66.

311.

Narrest this layes Ellan Nakerath by the Eirishe so called and in Englishe the Scheipes Iyle quilk is verey guid for the same and for Corne also.

## MYRESUYPES IYLE. 67.

Narrest this to the southwarte layes ther ane litle Iyle by the Eirishe namit Ellan na Naoske in Englishe the Myresuyes Iyle.

## NESSE POYNTE IYLE. 68.

Narrest this layes ther ane Yile by the Erische namit in ther Leide Ellan Ryndnahard that is the Iyle at the Nesse poynt.

## LYARTE IYLE. 69.

Narrest this layes Leach Ellan by the Erische namit sa, in Englisch namit the Lyort Iyle

## TAIRSKERAY. 70.

Narrest to this lays ane Yle by the Eirishe themselves callit Tairskeray.



## ACHNARRA. 71.

Narrest to Tairskeray lyes the Iyle namit Achnarra.

## GRAIT IYLE. 72.

Neirest this layes that Iyle by the Erische named Ellan Moire that is the Great Iyle, good for store and pasturage.

## THE IYLE OF THE MANS FIGURE. 73.

Narrest to the Grate Ile, layes that wich the Erische names  
312. Ellan calffe, callit in Englishe the Iyle of Mans figure.

## JHONES IYLE. 74.

Narrest this layes Ellan Ean, called in Englishe Jhones Iyle.

## STAKBEADES. 75.

Narrest to this layes that Iyle that the Erishe calls Stakbeades.

## OUERSAY. 76.

Narrest this at the West Poynt of Ila, lyes ane Iyle callit by the Erische Ellan Ouersay ane myle in lenth. It hath ane paroch kirke and is verey guid for fishing, inhabit and manurit, with ane right dangerous kyle and stream called Corey Garraache, na man dare enter in it bot at ane certain tyme of the tyde or ellis he will perish; this Iyl layes in lenth from the southeist to the northwest.

## THE MERCHANDS IYLE. 77.

Narrest this on the Northwest Coist of Ila lyes ane Iyle called by the Erische Ellan Kenyth that is the Merchants Iyle.

## USABRAST. 78.

Narrest this on the forsaid Northwest Coist of Ila, lyes ane Iyle callit Usabrast good for grass and fishing.

## TANESTE. 79.

Narrest this on North Coist of Iyla, lyes ane Iyle namit Ellan Taneste.

## NEFE. 80.

Narrest the same on the North Coist of Ila, beside the <sup>313</sup>, Entresse of Lochgrunord layes ane Iyle called by the Erish Ellan Nefe with ane kirke in it. This Iyle is half ane myle in lenthe fair maynland, Inhabit and manurit, good for fishing.

## VEBSTER IYLE. 81.

Narrest this Isle lyes ther one callet by the Erische themselves Ellan Nabaney that is Vebsters Ile.

## ORUANSAY. 82.

North from Ila layes ane Ile callit Oruansay, it is twa myle lange and neire alsmeikell in breidthe, quherin ther is ane Monastery of Chanons. Mayne laiche land full of hairs and foulmarts with convenient havens for heyland galeys and shald at the shores. It layes 8 myles of sea north from Ila.

## NAMUCKE. 83.

Beside this Iyle Oruansay layes ane uther Ile lesse then it callit by the Erische Ellan Namucke half ane myle lange wich is guid for swyne and als uther bestiall.

## COLUANSAY. 84.

Northwart from the Iyle of Oruansay be ane halfe myle of Sea lyes ane Isle callit Collvansay 7 myle lange from the Northeist to the Southwest, with twa myle bredthe, ane fertile Ile, guid for quhit fishing. it hath ane paroch kirke. This Ile is brukit be ane gentle Capitane callit M<sup>c</sup>Duffyhe, and pertened of auld to Clandonald of Kyntyre.

## MULLE. 85.

<sup>314</sup>.

Twelfe myle Northward from the Iyle of Coluansay lyes the Iyle of Mulle, ane grate roughe Ile nochtheles it is fertile and

fruitfull. This Ile contains in lenth from the Northeist to the Southwest 24 myles and in breid from the Eist Southeist to West Northwest uther 24 myles with certain woods. Maney Deire and verey fair hunting games, with many grate mertines and Cunnings for hunting; with a guid raid fornent Colmkill called Poltaiffe. There is sevin parochie kirkes within this Iyle and 3 Castles, to wit the Castle of Doward a strenthey place bigged on a Craige at the sea syde. The Castle of Lochbwy pertaining to M<sup>c</sup>Gillayne of Lochbwy. The Castle of Arose quhilk in former tyme pertinet to the Lords of the Iyles, and now is bruked be M<sup>c</sup>Gillayne of Doward. In this Ile there is twa guid fresche waters, ane of them are callit Ananva and the Vater of Glenforsay full of salmond, with uthers Waters that has salmond in them, but not in sic abundance as the twa forsaid waters. This Ile hath als Salt Water Loches to wit Loch Ear ane litle small Loche with guid take of herringes this Loche layes in the southwest of the Countrey. Ther is Lochefyne quherin there is a guid take of herrings. Northwart fra this Loch lyes Lochseaforte guid for the herring fishing. Lykwayes on the East pairt of the Countrey layes ane Loche callit Lochepetit, narrest this Loche in the Southe Southeist layes Lochbwy, a fair braid Loche quherin there is grat take of herring and uther fischings. As als within this Ile ther is twa fresche water Loches, the ane is called Loche Strathsenaban, with ane Ile in it callit by the Erishe Ellan Strathsenaban, the uther fresche Water Loch is callit Loche

315. Baa with ane Iyle therin. Thir iyles are baith strenthes and inhabit. This Iyle pertains pairtly to M<sup>c</sup>Gillayne of Douard pairtly to M<sup>c</sup>Gillayne of Lochbwy pairtly to M<sup>c</sup>kynnoun, pairtly to the Clandonald of awld. This Iyland layes bot foure myle from the firme land of Moriwane.

### THE DOW ILE. 86.

At the southwest shore of the Ile of Mull, layes ane litle Ile by the Erisch namit Ellan Chane that is the Dow Iylland. Inhabit half a mile lange, fruitfull for corne and gressing with ane havin for heighland boittis.

## ERRAY. 87.

Northwest from this Ile layes ane Ile namit by the Erishe Ellan Erray ane Iyl of half myle lange and half myl braid, guid main land inhabit and manurit, fruitfull of corne and pastorage with abundance of fisching.

## COLMKILL. 88.

Narrest this be twa myles of sea, layes the Ile the Erische callit I-colm-kill that is Sanct Colms Ile. Ane faire mayne Ile of twa myle lange and mair and ane myle braid, fertill and fruitfull of corn and store, and guid for fishing. Within this Ile there is a Monastery of Mounkes and ane uther of Nuns with a parochie kirke and sundrie uther Chapells dotat of auld be the Kings of Scotland and be Clandonald of the Iyles. This Abbay forsaid wes the Cathedrall kirk of the Bischops of the Iyles sen the tyme they were expulsed out of the Iyle of Man by the Englishmen for within the Isle of Man wes <sup>316.</sup> ther Cathedrall kirke and living of auld as I have already said in the description of that Ile. Within this Ile of Colmkill, there is ane Sanctuary also, or Kirkaird callit in Erische Religoran quhilk is a veray fair kirkzaird and weil biggit about with staine and lyme. Into this Sanctuary ther is three tombes of staine, formit like litle Chapels with ane braid gray Marble or Quhin staine in the gavill of ilk ane of the Tombes. In the staine of the ane Tombe there is wretten in Latin letters *Tumulus Regum Scotiae* that is the Tombe ore grave of the Scotts Kings. Within this Tombe, according to our Scotts and Erische Cronickels ther layes 48 crowned Scotts kings, throughe the quhilk this Ile hes beine richlie dotat be the Scots Kings as we have said. The Tombe on the southsyde forsaid hes this Inscriptione *Tumulus Regum Hyberniae* that is the tombe of Irland kinges for we have in our auld Erishe Cronickells that there wes 4 Irland Kings Eirdit in the said Tombe. Upon the northsyde of our Scotts Tombe, the Inscriptione beares *Tumulus Regum Norwegiae* that is the Tombe of the Kings of Norroway in the quhilk Tombe as we find in our Ancient Erishe Cronickells ther layes 8 Kings of Norroway, and als we find in our Erische Cronickells that



Coelus King of Norroway commandit his Nobils to take his bodey and burey it in Icolmkill if it chanceit him to die in 377. the Iles. Bot he was so discomfitit that ther remained not so maney of his armye as wald bury him ther: therfor he wes Eirded in Kyle after he strake ane feild against the Scotts and wes vanquisht be them. Within this sanctuary also lyes the maist pairt of the Lords of the Iles with ther lineage. Twa Clan Lynes with ther Lynage M<sup>c</sup>Kynnnon and M<sup>c</sup>Guare with ther lineages with sundrie uthers Inhabitants of the haille Isles, because this Sanctuary wes wont to be the sepulture of the best men of all the Iles, and als of our Kings as we have said: because it wes the maist honorable and ancient place that was in Scotland in their dayes as we reid.

## SOA. 89

At the southweist end of this Ile of Colmkill layes ane Ile callit Soa, quherin there is infinit number of wyld fowls nests. It is halfe ane myle in lenthe, verey good for sheepe, it pertaines to Colmkill.

## NABAN. 90.

On the Southeist syde of the Iyland of Colmkill ther lyes ane Ile callit in Erishe Ellan Naban that is the Woemens Ile. It is full of hedire, guid for store and fishing. It pertains to Colmkill.

## MOROAN. 91.

On the Northest end of Colmkill lyes ane litle Ile by the Erish namit Ellan Moroan ane litle laiche maine sandie Ile, full of bent and guid for sheepe. It pertains to Colmkill.

## RERINGE. 92.

On the Northsyde of Colmkill, layes ther ane litle Iyle by the namit Ellan Reringe ane profitable Ile, yeilding verey grate plentey of wyld fowls eggs and guid for fishing, pertaining to Colmkill.

## INCHE KENZIE. 93.

318.

On the North and Northnortheast of Colmkill lyes ane Iyl be 12 myles of sea till within the Entres of Loche-Scaford forsaide callit Inche Kenzie, halfe ane myle in lenth and not fully half a myle in breadthe, a fair Ile fertill and fruitfull. Inhabit and manurit, full of Cunings about the shores of it, with a paroch Kirk the maist part of the parochin being upon the mayne shoar of Mull being onlie ane half myle distant from the said Ile. And the hail parochin of it pertains to the Prioress of Colmkill.

## EORSAY. 94.

Within this Iyle of Inch Kenzie in the said Loche of Scafarm be ane myle of sea lyes ane Ile callit Eorsay, ane fertile Ile full of corne and grassing mair then a myle lange, pertaining to the Prioress of Colmkill.

## CALFA. 95.

Upon the neirest Coste of Mulle lyes ane Iyle callit the Calfe ane myle of lenth full of woods with ane sufficient raid for Shipes, pertayning to M<sup>c</sup>Gillane of Douard.

## THE GLASSE ILES. 96.

Before the Castell of Aross lyes ther twa Iles the one callit by the Erische Glassmoire the uther Glass-beg and in the south eist fra that throughe the Kyle of Mulle layes the said twa Iles, pertaining to M<sup>c</sup>Gillaine of Douard.

## ARDIN RIDIR. 97.

From the twa Glass Iles to the southeist, layes ane Ile callit <sup>319.</sup> by the Erishe Ardin Ridir, that is the Ile of the Knights Ness, pertaining to M<sup>c</sup>Gillayne of Douard.

## ELLAN MADIE. 98.

Southward from Douard lyes ane Ile upon the shore side

namit Ellan Madie by the Erische, it is verey guid for store, being bentey : it pertains to M<sup>c</sup>Gillane of Douard.

### ELLAN MOIR, 99.

Southwest from Ellan Madie upon the shore of Mulle, lyes ane Ile callit by the Erishe Ellan Moir, gud for store and for fishing, pertaining to M<sup>c</sup>Gillayne of Lochbuy.

### RONIN. 100.

Sexteine myle northwayte from the Ile of Coll lyes ane Ile callit Ronin Ile of 16 myle lang and six in breadthe in the narrowest, ane forest of heigh montains and abundance of litle Deir in it, quhilk deir will never be slaine dounewith, bot the Principall saitts man be in the heigh of the hill because the Deire will be callit upwart ay be the Teinchell or without tynchals they will pas upwart perforce. In this Ile will be gotten about Bretane als many wylds nests upon the plane Mure, as men pleasis to gadder, and by resson the fowls hes few to start them except Deir. This Isle lyes from the West to the eist in lenth, and pertains to M<sup>c</sup>kenabrey of Colla. Maney Soland geisse are in this Isle.

### THE HORSE ILE. 101.

Be foure of sea toward the southeist layes ane litle Ile half ane myle lang callit by the Erische Ellan na Neache that is in Engliche the Horse Ile guid for horse and uther store, pertaining to the Bishope of the Iles.

### SWYNES ILE. 102.

Be ane haffe myle of sea to this Ile lyes ane Ile twa myle lang callit in Erische Ellan Maneache that is the Swyne's Ile, and verey fertill and fruitfull of Cornis and grassings for all store and verey guid for fishing, inhabit and manurit, a good Falcon nest in it. It perteynis to the Bishope of the Iles, with ane guid heighland haven in it, the Entrey quherof is at the west cheike.

## KANNAY. 103.

Be twa myle of sea, towards the Northwest, towards the Ile of Ronin, layes ane Ile callit Kannay, faire maine land foure myle lang inhabit and manurit with a paroche kirke in it, guid for Corne, fisching and grassing with a Falcon Nest in it, pertines to the Abbot of Colmkill.

## EGGA. 104.

North from Ellan-muche be foure myles lyes ane Ile callit the Ile of Egga foure myle lange and twa myle braid, guid maine land with a paroche Kirke in it and maney Solan geese and verey guid for store namelie for sheip, with a heavin for heighland boittis.

## SOA URETILL. 105.

Norteist be 12 myles of sea from the Ile Ronin layes ane Ile of halfe myle in lenth callit Soa Uretill, ane roughe Ile quherin deir uses to be, and hunting games. It pertaines to McCloid of Heray.

## SKY. 106.

North fra the Ile of Soa Uretill be twa myle of sea Lyes the grate Ile of Sky tending from the South to the North to <sup>321.</sup> 42 myles roughe and hard land, thats to say, from the south poynt of Sleitt to the north point of Trouternesse and 8 myle braid in some places, and in uther places 12 myles braid. In this Ile ther is 12 parish Kirkes, manurit and inhabit, fertill land namelie for Aitis excelleng aney uther ground for grassings and pastoures. Abounding in store and of Studds in it, maney Woods, maney forrests, maney Deire fair hunting games, maney grate hills principally Guilvelinii and Gannock. Within this Ile ther is gud take of salmont upone 5 Vatters principally to wit the water of Sneisport, Sligachan, Straitswardill, Ranlagallan and Killintyne with 7 or 8 smaller waters quherupon salmond are also slayne. In this Ile there is ane freshe water Loch callit the Loch of Glenmoire quheron ther is abundance of salmont & [kipper] slaine. Within this Ile of Sky there



is 5 Castells, to wit, the Castell of Dunbeggan pertaining to McCloid of Herry ane starke strength biggit upon ane Craige, the Castell on Dunnakyne pertaining to Mackynnoun, the Castell of Doringill pertaining to the said Mackynnoun, the Castell of Camus in Sleitt pertaining to Donald Gromsone, the Castell of Dunskey pertaining to the said Donald Gromsone, the Castle of Dounwyline pertaining to Donald Gromsone lykways. Within this Ile ther is 7 Sundrey Countreys, to wit, Slaitt pertaining to Donald Gormsone; Straytsnardill pertaining to Mackynnoun quhilk lyes next the Sleitt; Menzenise pertaining to McCloyde of Herry; Brachedill pertaining to the said MacCloyd; Watterness pertaining to MacCloyd of the Lewis, and Troutirness pertaining to Donald Gormesone. Into this

322. Ile there is thre Principall Salt Water Loches, to wit Loch Liegachan, Loch Lownort and Loch Sleippan. In thir three principall Loches there is good take of heirrings, for by three principall Loches there is 13 Salt Watter Loches within this Isle, to wit.

1. Loche Skahanask,
2. Loche Emorte,
3. Loche Vrakdill,
4. Loche Kensale Serloss,
5. Loche Dunebegan,
6. Loche Gorsarmis,
7. Loche Arnoffort,
8. Loche Snasporte,
9. Loche Portri,
10. Loche Ken,
11. Loche Nadalae in Sleitt.

The uther twa Loches my memorey is fayled of them, bot in many of them ther is guid take of herrings some tymes bot nought sa guid by far as in the 3 first Loches. This Ile is callit by the Erishe Ellan Skyaine that is to say in Englishe the Wingitt Ile, be reason it hes maney wyngs and points lyand furth fra it; through the devyding of thir Loches.

#### ORANSAY. 107.

About this Ile of Sky ther lyes in ane cirkell certaine Iles

to wit at the West syde of Sleit, lyes ane callit Oransay ane myle lange Inhabit and manurit guid land, perteing to Donald Gormesone.

## NAGOYNEYNE. 108.

323.

Fornent Loche Alshe lyes ane Ile callit in Erishe Ellan Nagoyneyne that is to say Cunings Ile, full of Woode and Cunings, hafe ane myle in lenth, it perteynes to Mackenzie.

## PABAY. 109.

At the shore of Sky forsaid, lyes ane Ile callit Pabay neyre ane myle in lenth, full of woodes, guid for fishing and a maine shelter for theives and cut-throats, it pertains to M<sup>c</sup>kynnoun.

## SCALPAY. 110.

Fra this Ile of Pabay Northwest be aught myle of sea lyes ane Ile callit Scalpay 4 myle lange and als meikle in breid ane faire hunting forrest full of deire with certaine litle Woodis and small tounis, weill inhabit and manurit with many strenthey coves, guid for fishing, in heritage it perteines to M<sup>c</sup>Gillayne of Dowarde.

## CROWLING, 111.

Crowling ane small Ile yea rather a guid raid, betwix the mouth of Loche Carron and the Ile of Raarsay.

## RAARSAY. 112.

Twa myle off sea fra the Ile of Scalpay forsaid lyes ane Ile callit Raarsay 7 myle lange from the southe to the northe bot ane myle of sea from Trouternesse and twa myle of breid with pairt of birkin Woodes, maney Deires, pairt of profitable landis, 324. inhabit and manurit, with twa Castles, to wit, the Castle of Killmorocht and the Castle of Brolokit with twa fair Orchards at the said twa Castells with ane paroche kirke called Killmolowocke, ane roughe Countrey bot all full of free-staines

& guid quarells. It is excellent for fishing, pertaining to Mc'GyllyChallan of Raarsay be the sword, and to the Bishope of the Iles by Heritage. This same Mc'GillyChallan suld obey Mc'Cloyd of the Lewis.

#### RONAY. 113.

At the North end of Raarsay be halfe myle of sea fra it layes ane Ile callit Ronay mair then a myle in lenthe full of wood and heddir with ane havin for hieland galeys in the middis of it, and the same havein is quyed for fostering of theives, ruggars, and reivars, till a nail upone the peilling and spulzeing of poure pepill. This Ile pertains to Mc'GillyChallan of Raarsay by force, and to the Bishope of the Iles be heritage.

#### ELLAN GEARLOCHIE. 114.

Ellan Gearlochie a guid raid for the shipes in the mouthe of Locheber.

#### FLADDAY. 115.

325. To the north fra Ronay be sex mile of sea lyes ane Ile namit Fladay ane maine laiche Ile, half ane myle lange. Inhabit and manurit, fruitfull in corne and grassing pertaining to Donald Gormesone.

#### TUILIN. 116.

Narrest the Fladay be twa myle of sea at the shore of Trouternesse lyes ane Ile callit Ellan Twilin haffe myle lange or therby manurit guid for corne and store, pertaining to Donald Gormesone.

#### 117.

Four myle of sea fra this Ile Twilin northwart lyes ane Ile callit ———

#### CRANSAY. 118.

Upon the coste of Sky be ane half myle to the shore of

Brakadill is ane Ile callit Cransay, halfe myle lange ane boney Ile for corne and gersing pertaining to M<sup>c</sup>Cloyd of Herray.

## BWYA MOIR. 119.

Be ane myle of sea to this Ile of Cransay lyes ane callit Bwya Moir guid for Corne and store pertaining to M<sup>c</sup>Cloyd of Herray.

Narrest the Ile of Bwya Moir lyes 4 small Iles, quhose names the author hes left blanks for, with the numbers of 120, 121, 122, 123.

Befor the Castell of Dunbegan lyes three small Iles, to wit, 124, 125, 126.

## ISAY. 127.

At the shore of Waternessee lyes ane Ile callit Isa ane faire laiche Ile, inhabit and manurit, verey fertill and fruitfull for corn and gersing, ane myle lange and half myle braid, having beside it ane uther laiche Ile full of sheepe. This Ile is guid for fishing, quilk Iles pertines to M<sup>c</sup>Cloid of the Lewis.

## ASKERIN. 128.

326.

On the eist shore of Wattirness lyes ane Ile callit Ellan Askerin abounding in grassing and pasture, maire usit for sheilling and pasture then for Corne land: guid for fishing and slaughter of selchis, pertaining to M<sup>c</sup>Cloyd of Lewis.

## LINDILL. 129.

Upon the shore of Askerin lyes ane Ile callit Ellan Lindill, verey guid for bear and for pasture of sheepe, it pertienes to M<sup>c</sup>Cloyd of Heray.

## LINGAY. 130.

From the Ile of Sky towards the southwest be fourscoire myles of sea lyes ane Ile callit Lingay, guid for gressing and fishing, ane Ile of halfe myle lange. It hes a Falcon nest in it, pertains to the Bishop of the Iles.



## GIGARUN. 131

Backwart to the north besydes the Ile of Lingay lyes ane Iyl callit Gigarun, half myle lang, perteing to the Bishop of the Iyles.

## BERNERAY. 132.

Besydes the Ile of Gigarun toward the North, lyes ane Iyle, Inhabit and manurit, ane myle lange callit Berneray, very fertill and guid for fishing, perteing to the Bishop of the Iyles.

## MEGALY. 133.

Besydes the Ile of Berneray towards the North lyes ane Ile callit Megaly twa myle lang Inhabit and veill manuritt, guid for fishing and corne, perteing to the Bishop of the Iyles.

## PABAY. 134.

Besydes the Isle of Megaly to the North northeist lyes ane 327. Ile callit Pabay ane mile lange, manurit. In it is guid take of fisch, it pertaines to the Bishope of the Isles.

## FLADAY. 135.

Besides the Isle of Pabay lyes ane prettey litle Isle to the northwart callit Fladay, of ane mile lange, fruitfull in corne and als in fishing, perteing to the Bishope of the Isles.

## SCARPNAMUT. 136.

Neire the Ile of Fladay towards the North lyes ane Ile namit Scarpnamutt twa myle lange, with a hake nest in it, full of pastures and verey guid for fishing, perteing to the Bishop of the Isles.

## SANDERAY. 137.

Nixt to the forsaid Ile lyes ther ane uther callit Sanderay Inhabit and manurit, guid for corn and fishing, twa myle lange. it pertaines to the Bishope of the Isles.

## WATTERSAY. 138.

Besides this Ile northwart lyes ane Ile callit Vatersay, twa myle in lenth and ane myle in breadthe, ane excellent Raid for shippes that comes ther to fisch, ane faire maine land inhabit and manurit, abounding in corne and gersing with good pastorage for sheepe. All thir 9 Iles forsaide had a Chapell in every Ile. This Ile perteyns to the Bishope of the Iles.

## BARRAY. 139.

328.

Not far from this Ile of Watersay towards the north be twa myle of the sea lyes the Ile of Barray, being 7 myle in lenthe, from the south west to the northeist and be north and 4 in breadth from the southeist to the northwest: ane fertile and fruitfull in cornes, abounding in the fishing of Keilling, Ling, and all uther quhyte fish, with ane paroch kirke namit Killbare. Within the southwest end of this Ile ther enters a salt watter Loche, verey narrow in the Entres and round and braide within. Into the middis of the saids Loche there is ane Casle, in ane Ile upon ane strenthey Craige callit Kileuin perteyning to M<sup>c</sup>kneill of Baray. In the north end of this Isle of Barray ther is ane round heigh know mayne grasse and greine round about it to the heid on the top of quilk ther is ane spring and fresche water well. This well treuly springs up certaine litle round quhyte things less nor the quantity of ane confeit corne lykes to the shape and figour of ane litle Cokill, as it appearit to me. Out of this well runs ther ane litle strype downwith to the sea, and quher it enters the sea there is ane myle braid of sands, quilk ebbs ane myle, callit the Trayrmore of Killbarray that is the grate sands of Barray. This sand is all full of grate Cokills and alledgit be the ancient Countreyemen that the same cokills comes down out of the forsaide hill throughe said strype in the first small forme that we have spoken off and after ther coming to the saidis <sup>329</sup> sandis growis grate Cokills alwayes. Ther is na fairer and more profitable sands for cokills in all the world. This Isle pertains to M<sup>c</sup>kneill of Barray.

## ORVANSAY, 140.

Betwix Barray and Ywist ther lyes first Orvansay half myle lange with ane falcone nest, ane guid profitable Ile manurit, guid for sheepe, pertaining to M<sup>c</sup>Neill of Barray.

## NACHARRACHE. 141.

Besides this Isle Lyes Ellan Nacharrach by the Erishe so callit and in Englishe the Sheips Ile, ane litle Ile full of grassing and store, pertaining to M<sup>c</sup>kneill of Barray.

## NAHAKERSAIT. 142.

Nairest this forsaid Ile lyes ane Ile called Nahakersait half a myle lange with ane heavin for heighland galleyis, perteynis to M<sup>c</sup>Neill of Barray.

## GARULANGA. 143.

Besides this Ile lyes ane Ile callit Garulanga guid for fishing, and verey fruitfull, pertaining to Makneill of Barray.

## FLADAY. 144.

Besydes this lyes ane Ile callit Fladay half myle lange with ane Falcone nest in it, verey fertile and fruitfull, it pertaines to M<sup>c</sup>Neill of Barray.

## BWYABEG. 145.

Besides Flada layes ane Ile namit Bwyabeg halfe myle lang guid for gersing and fishing, pertaining to M<sup>c</sup>kneill of Barray.

330.

## BWYA MOIR. 146.

Narrest Bwya Beg lyes ane Ile namit Bwya Moir twa myle lange, manurit, full of gersing and pasture with ane falcon nest in it, pertaining to Mak Neill of Barray.

## HAY. 147.

Not far from Bwya Moir, lyes ane Ile callit Hay halfe a myle lang, fertill and fruitfull, and guid for fishing, pertaining to M<sup>c</sup>Neill of Barray.

## HELLESAY. 148.

Besides Hay lyes ane Ile callit Hellesay ane myle lange, fertill and fruitfull, weill manurit and excellent for all sort of quhyte fishe taking. It pertains to MakNeill of Barray.

## GIGAY. 149.

Besides this Ile lyes ane Ile callit Gigay ane myle lang, fertil and fruitfull, guid for store and fishing, pertaining to MakNeill of Baray.

## LINGAY. 150.

Narrest to Gigay lyes ane Ile callit Lingay half mile lange ane verey guid Ile for gressing pastures and for Sheiling, pertaining to Makneill of Barray.

## FERAY. 151.

331.

Besides this Ile lyes ane Ile laiche, namit by the Erishe Feray haffe a mile lange, guid for corne and gersing and excellent for fishing, pertaining to MackNeill of Barray.

## FUDAY. 152.

Besides this Ile lyes ane maine sandey Ile callit Fuday, fertill for beare and murenis, the quhilk Ile pay murenis zeirly to MakNeill of Barray for pairt of mailles and dewties.

## ERISKERAY. 153.

To the Eist of this Ile of Fuday be three myle of sea lyes ane Ile callit Eriskeray, twa myle lang, inhabit and manurit. In this Ile ther is daylie gottin aboundance of verey grate pintill fishe at Ebb seas and als verey guid for uther fishing, pertaining to Mackneill of Barray.

## YWST. 154.

Northwart fra thir Isles forsaid, lyes the grate Ile of Ywst 34 mile lange from southwest to the northeist, sex myle braid, ane fertile Countrey and maine laiche land, full of heigh hills



and forrests on the eist Cost, ore southeist and all plenisht  
 332. laiche land on the northwest, with five parochie kirkes. Within  
 this south part of Ywst on the east coste of the same, layes  
 ane salt watter Loche callit Vayhastill. This Countrey is  
 bruiked by sundrey Captains, to wit, the southwest end of it  
 callit Baghastill be M'kneill of Barray. The rest of the Ile  
 namit Peiters parochin, the parochin of Howse and the mayne  
 land of the Mid Countrey called Machermeanache pertains to  
 Clanronald halding of the Clandonald. At the end heirof  
 the sea enters and cutts the Countrey by Ebbing and flowing  
 through it, and in the northsyde of this ther is ane parochin  
 called Buchagla pertaining to the said Clandonald. At the  
 north end therof the sea cutts the Countrey againe and that  
 cutting of the sea is called Careynesse and benorth this the  
 Countrey is callit Kenchnache of Ywst, that is the North head  
 of Ywst in English, quilk termis twa parochie kirks and is mair  
 of profit then the rest of haille of Ywst, pertaining to Donald  
 Gormesone. In this Ile ther are infinit number of fresh water  
 Loches, bot ther is ane maine Loch callit Lochebi, three myle  
 large and ane arme of the sea hes worne the Earth that wes at  
 the ane end of this Loche quilk the sea hes gottin Entres to  
 this freshe water Loche. In that narrow Entres that the sea  
 hath gottin to the Loche, The Countrey men hes bigit upe  
 333. ane thicke dyke of rough staines and penneystanes cast, lange  
 narrest. Notwithstanding the flowing streams of the sea  
 enters throughe the said dyke of staines in the said fresche  
 water Loche and so ther is continually gettin stiking amange  
 the roughe staines of the said Dyke, Fluikis, Podlocks, Skatts,  
 and Herings. Upone this Loche there is gottin a kynd of  
 fische of the quantitie and shape of a salmont, but it hes no  
 skails at all, the under half narrest his Vombe is quhyte and  
 the upmaist haffe nearest his Back is als black as Jett, with  
 finis like a salmont. Into this north heid of Ywst ther is  
 sundry Covis and holes in the earth coverit with heddir above,  
 quhilke fosters maney rebellis in the Countrey of the North  
 heid of Ywst.

## 155.

Betwixt the Kentnache and Benvalgha lyes ane verey small Ile callit——

## HELKER NAGAILLON. 156.

Be 8 myle of sea from this Ile towards the West lyes ane Ile, 4 myle and half myle braid, laiche maine land callit Hsker Nagaillon. It hes abundance of corne and elding for fire. It pertains to the Nuns of Colmkill.

## HAYSKER. 157.

To the northwest fra this Kentnache of Ywst be 12 myle of sea lyes ane Ile callit Haysker quherin infinit slaughter of selchis is. This Ile pertains to Donald Gormeson.

## HIRTA. 158.

To the West Northwest of this Isle forsaid, out in the <sup>334</sup> mayne Ocean seas, be threescore of myle of sea layes ane Ile callit Hirta, ane maine laiche Isle sa far as is manurit of it, abundant in Corne and gressing namelie for sheipe, for ther ar fairer and greiter sheip ther and larger tailed then ther is in any uther Ile aboute. The inhabitants therof are simple poor people, scarce learnit in aney religion, Bot M<sup>c</sup>Cloid of Herry his Stewart or he quhom he deputs in sic office, sailles anes in the Zeir ther at Midsummer with some chaplain to baptize bairns ther, and if they want a Chaplaine they baptise ther barnes themselves. The said Stewart, as he himself tauld me, uses to take ane maske of malt ther with a masking fatt and makes his malt and ere the fat be ready, the commons of the town both men and weemen and Bairnes puts their hands in the fatt and findis it sweit, and greyns after the sweitness of it, quhilk they leave nather wirt nor draffe unsupped out ther, quharwith baith men women and bairnes were deid drunken sua that they could not stand upon their feett. The said Stewart receives ther dewties in Meill and reistit mutton, wyld foullis reistit, and selcheis. This Ile is maire nor ane myle lange and narrest als mekill in braid, quilk is not seine of aney

shore, bot at the shoresyde of it lyes three gratt hills, quhilk are ane pairt of Hirta quhilk are seen affar off from the forelandis. In this fair Ile is fair sheipe, Falcon nests & wyld fowls biggand, bot the streames of the sea are starke, and are verey evill entring in aney of the saids Iles.

335. This Ile of Hirta pertains of auld to M<sup>c</sup>Cloid of Herryay.

#### VALAY. 159.

At the north west coist of the forsaid Kentnache lyes an Ile callit Valay, twa myle lang from the North to south, ane myle braid, a fayr Mayne Ile, inhabit, and perteing to Donald Gormesone.

#### SOA. 160.

Betwix Kentnache and the Herryay lyes ane Ile callit Soa inhabit and manurit, ane myle lang, mayne land, perteing to Donald Gormesone.

#### THE PIGMEIS ILE. 161.

At the north poynt of Lewis there is a litle Ile callit the Pigmeis Ile with ane litle kirk in it of ther aun handey wark. Within this kirk the ancients of that Countrey of the Lewis sayes that the saids Pigmeis has been Eirdit thair. Maney men of diverse Countreys hes delvit upe deiplie the flure of the litle kirk, and I myselve amanges the leave, and hes found in it deepe under the Erthe certaine baines and round heads of wonderfull litle quantity, allegit to be the baines of the saids Pigmeis, quhilk may be lykly, according to sundrey historeys that we reid of the Pigmeis, bot I leave this far of it to the Ancients of Lewis. This Isle pertains to M<sup>c</sup>Cloyd of the Lewis.

#### FABILL. 162.

Besouth this at the southeist shore of the Lewis lyes ane Ile callit Ellan Fabill, verey guid for waikie store and fisching, pertaining to M<sup>c</sup>Cloyd of Lewis.



## ADAIN. 163.

South fra this said Cost lyes Ellan Adain manurit, guid for waike bestiall, pertaining to M<sup>c</sup>Cloyd of the Lewis.

## NA NAUN. 164.

336.

Upon the said shore towards the West lyes Ellan NaNaun that is the Lambes Ile, wherin all the Lambes of that end of the countrey uses to be fed, and spained fra the zowes. This Ile pertaines to MacLoyd of the Lewis.

## HUILURE. 165.

Betwix this Ile and Steornoway ther lyes Ellan Huilure manurit and guid for store and corne pertaining to MacCloyd of the Lewis.

## VIC-COULL. 166.

Southwart from this Ile, lyes Ellan Vic Coull ane guid Ile for corne, store and fishing, pertaining to Macloyd of the Lewis.

## HALEURAY. 167.

Besides this lyes Haleuray ane guid Ile for Corne and grassing, excellent for fisching, of ane myle of lenth, perteing to MacCloyd of Lewis.

## LAXAY. 168.

Besides this lyes the Ile of Laxay ane guid Ile, full of corne and gressing and als fisching, perteing to M<sup>c</sup>Cloyd of Lewis.

## ERR. 169.

Besides this Ile of Laxay lyes ane Ile callit Err which is in English Irland, laiche mayne and full of Corne, and perteing to M<sup>c</sup>Cloyd of the Lewis.

## ST. COLMES ILE. 170.

Within the Loches forsaid lyes Ellan-Colmkill, that is in 337.



English St. Colmes Ile. Within this Ile Macloyde of the Lewis hes ane faire Orchard, and he that is Gardener has that Ile free, guid in mayneland for corne and gersing and fisching, pertaining to Macloyde of the Lewis.

#### TOORAY. 171.

Besides this Ile, lyes ane Ile namit Ellan Tooray, ane Ile weill manurit, guid for corn grass and fisching, pertaining to MacLoyd of the Lewis.

#### ELLAN IFURDE. 172.

Southwarte from this lyes ane Ile callit Ellan Ifurde [?Hurte], with manurit land, guid to pasture and scheilling of store with faire hunting of Otters out of their bouries. It pertains to McCloud of Lewis.

#### SCALPAY of HARRAY. 173.

Southwarte fare from this lyes ane Ile callit Scalpay of Harray twa mile lange, ane profitable Ile in corn, gressing and fishing. It perteins to MacLoyd of Harray.

#### FLADAY. 174.

Towards the Northeist from this Ile be 20 myle of sea, lyes ane Ile in the sea callit Fladay, halfe myle lang, ane profitable Ile in corn and grassing and fisching, pertaining to Donald Gormesone.

#### SENTA. 175.

Northwart fra this Ile lyes there ane Ile callit Ellan Senta in English a Saw, ane Ile mair than twa myle lang, verey profitable for corne, store and fishing, pertaining to MacLoyd of the Lewis. On the Eist syde of this Ile ther is a bore, maid lyke a  
 338. Vylt, maire nore ane arrow shote of any man under the Eirde, throw the quhilk vylte we use to row ore saill with our boittis, for feare of the horrible breake of the seas that is on the outwar side therof, bot na grate shipes can saill ther. It pertains to Macleod of the Lewis.

## SENCFASTLE. 176.

Be eist this Ile lyes ane Ile callit Sencfastle by the Erisch that is the Alde castle in the Englishe ane strenthe full of corne and grassings, full of wyld fowls nests, and verey guid for fishing. It perteines to MacLeod of the Lewis.

## ELLAN EW. 177.

Upon the shoire of Lochebrune lyes Ellan Ew, haffe myle in lenthe, full of woods guid for theives to waitt upon their mens gaire. It pertains to McEnzie.

## GRUYNORDE. 178.

Northwarte from this Ile lyes the Ile of Gruynorde mair nore ane myle lange, full of wood, guid for fostering of theives and rebells. It pertains to MacEnzie.

## NA CLERACHE. 179.

Northwarte from this Ile lyes ane Ile callit Ellan Naclerache haffe myle lange, guid for gersing, and wyld fowls eggs, pertaining to McEnzie.

## AFUILL. 180.

Narest this lyes the Ile by the Erishe callit Ellan Afuill guid for store and fishing.

## HAWRARY MOIR. 181.

339.

Narrest this lyes Hawrary Moir by the Erish sa callit.

## HAWRARY BEG. 182.

Besydes this lyes ane Illand namit Hawrarey beg.

## NANEACHE. 183.

Besides this lyes ane Iland by the Erishe callit NaNeache.

## MERTARGE. 184.

Besides this lyes I'land Mertarge.

## SOYA MOIR. 185.

Besides this layes ane Ile callit by the Erish themselves Soya Moir, it is ane myle of lenthe, verey fertill and fruitfull excellent for fisching.

## ELLAN IISA. 186.

Besides this lyes an Ile named by the Erishe Ellan Iisa, manurit, fertill and fruitfull.

## SEUNABEG. 187.

Besides this lyes ther ane Ile Seunabeg, manurit, fertile and fruitfull, guid for corne, store and fisching, half ane myle lange.

## SEUNA MOIR. 188.

Besydes this Seuna Moir, ane Ile of a myle of lenthe and half myle breadth, Inhabit and manurit, guid for Corne, store and fishing.

## TARANDSAY. 189.

Besides this lyes Tarandsay ane Ile of 5 myle lang and half  
340. myle braid, ane rough Ile with certaine tounis, weill inhabit and manurit, bot all this fertile is delved with spaides excepting sa meikell as ane horse pleuch will teill, and yet they have maist abundance of beir, meikel of store and fishing. It pertains to MacCloyd of Harrey.

## SLEGEIN. 190.

Besides this lyes the Ile of Slegein, manurit, guid for corne, store and fishing, pertaining to Macloyd of Harrey.

## TIVEIN, 191.

Besides this lyes Tivein, ane Ile guid for store, corne and fishing, perteyning to Macloyd of Harrey.

## SCARPE. 192.

Besydes this out in the sea about Usenesse in Harrey lyes ane Ile callit the Scarpe, fertile and fruitfull, guid for corne, store and fishing, pertaining to Macloyde of Harrey.

Aboute the Northwest Coste of the Lewis Towards the Mayne Occident Seas, lyes certain Iles of quhome we will make mention, before that we shall begin with Harrey & Lewis, to wit,

## 7 HALLY ILES. 193.

First, furth 50 myle in the Occident Seas from the Coste of <sup>341.</sup> the parochin Vye in Lewis, towartis the Northwest, lyes the 7 Iles of Flanayn, claid with girth, and Haly Iles, verey natural gressing within thir saids Iles, Infinit wyld sheep therein quhilk na man knawes to whome the said scheipe apperteins within them that lives of the Countreymen; bot Macloyd of the Lewis at certaine tymes in the Zeir sendis men in and huntis and slayis maney of thir scheipe. The flesche of thir sheipe cannot be eaten be honest men for fatnesse, for there is no fleche on them, bot all quhyte lyke Talloune, and it is werrey wyld gusted lykways. The saids Iles are noulder manurit nor inhabit bot full of grein high hills, full of wild sheipe in ya vii Iles forsaid, quhilk may not be outrune. They pertaine to Macloyd of the Lewis.

## GARVELLAN. 194.

Besides this Coste of Lewis towards the said northwest, lyes ane Ile callit Garvellan, guid for store and fisching.

## LAMBAY, 195.

Besides this Ile lyes ane uther Ile namit Lambay, guid also for store and fisching, perteyning to Macloyd of Lewis.



## FLADAY 196.

Besides the Ile of Lambay lyes ane uther Ile by the Erish namit Fladay of the Lewis, ane pretty laiche Ile, guid for store and fisching. It apperteins to Macloyd of the Lewis.

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## KEALNSAY. 197.

Besides this lyes Kealnsay ane guide Ile narrest ane myle lange fruitfull for store and fishing and als manuritt, per-teining to Macloyd of Lewis.

## BEARNERAY BEG. 198.

Besides this Kealnsay forsaid layes Berneraybeg, haffe ane myle lange and ane myle of breathe, ane laiche roughe Ile full of litle rough Craiges and how betwix, of naturall fertile eirthe, with infinite sea vare on every shore of the same. This Ile is weill inhabit and manurit and will give yerly mare nor 200 bows of beire with delving only. It pertains to Macloyd of Lewis.

## BEARNERAY MOIR. 199.

Besides this lyes Bearneray Moir, ane Ile of 5 myle lang inhabit and manurit, fertill and fruitfull, with maney pastures and mekell store, guid for fisching and fewell also. It pertains to Macloyd of the Lewis.

## KERTAY. 200.

Besides this Ile lyes Kertay ane Ile of a myle in lenthe Inhabit and manurit, fertill and fruitfull, guid for store and fishing, per-teining to Macloyd of the Lewis.

## BUYA BEG. 201.

Besides this lyes Buyabeg ane Ile inhabit and manurit, guid for corne, store and fisching pertaing to Macloyd of the Lewis.

## BUYA MOIR. 202.

343. Besides this lyes Buya Moir the Ile sa callit by the Erishe,

mair nore ane myle lange, inhabit and manurit, guid for corne, store and fisching, pertaining to Macloyd of the Lewis.

### VAXAY, 203.

Besides this lyes ane Ile by the Erishe namit Vaxay, ane guid mayne Ile of ane myle lenth, Inhabit and manurit, full of natural pasture, for store and fisching and excellent guid fewall, pertains to M<sup>c</sup>loyd of the Lewis.

### PABAY 204.

Besides theis Iles lyes Pabay, ane Ile mair nore ane myle lange, ane fruitfull and fertile Mayne Ile, full of corne & scheipe, quherin ther was a kirk, quherein also Mac-cleod of the Lewis ussit to dwell, quhen he wald be quyit or yit fearit. This Ile is guid for fishing, and pertains to Mac cloyd of the Lewis.

### SIGRAIN MOIR NAGOINEIN. 205.

Besides this Pabay layes the Ile which the Erishmen calleth Sigrain-Moir Nagoinein, that is to say the Cuninges Ile, quherin ther are maney Cuninges. This Ile is guid for gressing and fisching, and pertains to Macloyd of the Lewis.

### SIGRAIN BEG. 206.

Besides this Ile lyes Sigrain beg, ane fertill and fruitfull Ile, guid for corne, gressing and fisching, ane myle of lenthe, it pertaines to Mac cloyd of the Lewis.

### HARREY. 207.

Now wee returne backwards to Harrey quhilk is bot ane Ile <sup>344.</sup> and the Lewis togidder, extending in lenth from the southwest to the northeist to threescoir of myles, and from the North-west to the southeist 16 myle in breid. Within the south pairt of this Ile lyes ane Monastery with ane Steipell, quhilk wes foundit and biggit by M<sup>c</sup>Cloyd of Harrey callit Roodill. This south pairt of the Countrey called Harrey is verey fertill and fruitfull for corne, store and fisching, twysse mair of

delving in it nor of teilling. Within this end of the Countrey ther is ane Water with ane guid take of salmont fishing in it, with ane highe greine hill callit Copefaal, maist excellent for sheepe in ye pairts wheron ther wes sheepe, quhen I wes ther, without auners and verey ald. In this Countrey of Harrey northwart betwix it and the Lewis, are maney forrests, quherin are abundance of Deir, bot not greate quantitie, very faire hunting games without any woodes, with infinit slaughter of Otters and matrixks. This Ile hes nather Wolfes, taides nor edders in it.

Lewis is the north pairt of this Ile and the maist also, faire and weill inhabit at the coste, ane fertile and fruitfull Countrey, for the maist pairt beire, with 4 parochie kirkes, and with ane Castell callit Steornaway, with 3 principall Salt water Loches, very guid for take of herrings, to wit, Loche Selga farrest to the southwest, Loche Fasirt northwart fra that, ane  
 345. Loche that is lang and hes certaine small Loches in it quike for the same cause is callit the Loches. By these there is uther 3 loches not eivill quhylomes for take of herrings, to wit, Loche Steornaway, with infinit fresche water Loches. In this Lewis, ther are 8 waters with take of salmont. In this Ile there are many sheip for it is verey guid for the same, for they lay furth ever one mures and glens and nevir enters in a house and ther wool is bot anes in the Zeire plukit off them in some fauldes. In this Countrey all is peit mossland at the Sea cost, and the plaice where he winns his peitts this Zeire, there he sawis his corne the nixt zeire, after that he guidds it weill with sea ware. A grate take of whales is oftymes in this Countrey so that be relatione of the maist ancient in this Countrey, there comes 26 or 27 quhails young and auld to the teynd anes ther. There is a Cove in this Countrey quherin the sea fallis, and is twa fadome deepe at the Ebb sea and four faddome and mair at the full sea. Within this Cove there uses Whyteins to be slain with huikes, verey maney haddocks and men with ther wands sitting upon the Craiges of that Cove and Lades and Women also.

#### RONAY. 208.

Towarts the north northeist from Lewis threescore myles of

sea lyes ane litle Ile callit Ronay, laiche mayne land inhabit and manurit be simple people scant of any religion. This Ile <sup>346.</sup> is uther haffe myle lange and haffe myle braid, aboundance of corne growes on it by delving onlie, aboundance of clover gersse for sheipe. There is ane certain number of Ky and sheip ordainit for this Ile be ther auen auld right, extending to so maney as may be sustainit upon the said gressing and the countrey is so fertill of gersing that the superexcrecens of the said ky and sheipe, baithe feidis them in fleche and als payès ther dewties with the samen for the maist pairt. Within this Ile there is sic faire whyte beir meall made lyke flour, and quhen they slay their sheip, they flay them belley slaught and stuffes ther skins fresche of the beare meill, and send ther dewties to a servant of Macloyd of Lewis with certain reistit mutton and maney reistit wyld foulis. Within this Ile there is ane Chapell callit St. Ronay's Chapell, unto quhilk chapell as the Ancient of the Countrey alledges, they leave ane spaide and ane shuill quhen any man deis, and upon the morow findes the place of the grave markit with ane spaid, as they alledge. In this Ile they use to take maney quhails and uthers grate fishes.

#### SUILSKERAY. 209.

Be sixteen myle of sea to this Ile towards the West, lyes ane Ile callit Suilskeray ane myle lange without grasse or hedder, <sup>347.</sup> with highe blacke Craigs, and blacke fonge therupon pairt of them. This Ile is full of wyld foulis, and quhen foulis hes ther birdes, men out of the parochin of Nesse in Lewis use to saill ther and to stay ther seven or aught dayes and to fetch hame with them their boitt full of dray wild foulis with Wyld foulis fedders. In this Ile there haunts ane kynd of foule callit the Colk, litle less nor a guisse quha comes in in the Ver to the land to her eggis, and to clecke hir birdes quhyll she bring them to perfytness and at that time her fleiche of fedderis falleth of her all haily and she sayles to the mayne sea againe and then comes never to land quhyll the zeares end againe and then she comes with her new fleece of fedderis. This fleece that she leaves zeirly upon her nest, hes na pens in the feddirs nor



na kynd of hard thinge in them that may felt or graipit, bot utter fyne downes.

348.

DESCRIPTIO INSULARUM ORCHADIA-  
RUM. Anno 1529 per me JOANNEM  
BEN. ibidem Colentem.

NORTH RANDLSAY 1.

Prima Insula est North Randlsay ab Aquilone, et est terra equata mari, et naufragium Anglis et aliis navigantibus sæpissime præbet: distat enim a Kirkvallia sexaginta milliaribus, in circuitu quatuor: populi fiunt admodum ignari divini eloquii: quia raro aut nunquam docentur. Fertilitas magna illic frumenti, nempe hordei atque avenarum homines hyeme vescuntur pane hordeaceo, æstate vero pisciculis parvis atque lacte; in ea parte Insulæ nempe aquilone belluæ maximæ vernaculæ [Selchis] retis factis ex cannabe capiuntur. Et distat a terra scopulus magnus dimidium milliare nomine Selchskerey, ubi marinæ aves illic colunt et nidificant. In illo scopulo belluæ predictæ fluctuante mari ad cacumen ascendunt, abeunte vero in puteum descendunt, ubi vi nulla egredi possunt, exitus nullus est; mutuo inter se murmurantes agricolæ moris venientibus ad scopulum accedunt corylis magnis; belluæ vero intuentes atque frendentes ira cum magna apertura oris flecti viam tendunt, tunc agrediuntur viribus, et voluntarie pugnam vexerint. Belluæ, etsi prima sine lesione evaserit, omnes aliæ dentibus in homines incidunt; quod autem si prima cæsa et mortua fuerit omnes aliæ in fugam eunt atque facile capiuntur, et captas vidi semel sexaginta.

349. Carent igne, nisi algis marinis siccis, cespites vero arenaceos habent minime in igne lucentes luce vero qua hyeme fruuntur, ex intestinis piscium est, vel ex abdomine: et ex stercoribus pecorum in muro sparsis et sole arefactis optimus focus est. Nec ranæ, glires, nec bufones hic colunt; et si navis hic adduxerit glires cito pereunt quasi veneno.

## SANDAY. 2.

Sanday (sic dicta quasi insula arenosa, *the Sandie Ile*, quid est arenarum plena), distat a predicta Insula duo milliaria maxima: Insula illa est in longitudine 12 milliaria, latitudinē vero duo. Angli et Germani sæpissime hic pereunt in una parte versus orientem, nomine *the Star of Lopenesse*.

Ipsē ego transiens per Insulam, atque fatigatus, me apud unam Ecclesiam recepi nomine S. Crucis, et in Cemeterio innumerabilia capita hominum circiter mille vidi majora tribus capitibus nunc viventibus; et dentes aliquos ex gingivis extraxi similitudine unius glandis avellanæ. Mirabar quidem atque cupidus rerum novarum me homini senī contuli investigansque quænam hæc erant et unde ossa semisepulta, respondit ille, Fili, hæc Insula olim erat subjecta Stronsariis atque etiam annuatim redditum dedimus ut libere efficeremur, quatenus imbelles suimus. Cum itaque redditu fatigati adolevimus consilium cepimus quomodo exonerari potuimus. Tunc unus prudentior aliis dixit: Dies ecce solutionis adest; apud Ecclesiam nosmet ipsos abscondemus, in Cuniculis trucidabimus omnes ad unum ita ut nullus eorum evadet. Omnes illi annuerunt. Veniente vero die Stronsarii cum uxoribus, filiis, filiabus, famulis, familiaribus ceterisque multiis, atque solventes anchora, velis extensis 350. aura secunda, sine armis, elati gaudio, ad littus nostrum appulerunt ubi saltantes et ducentes Choreas, majorem partem diei consumpserunt. Interea Sandesii et nos hic colentes commoti atque armis aptissimis succincti subito clamore et sono terribili orto eos invasimus, et omnes ad mortem trucidavimus, et quidem nullus hic unquam postea tributum solvimus et sic liberati fuimus. Hæc duæ Insulæ abundant nempe pediculis atque omnium Insularum luridissinæ sunt. Tam senes quam juvenes in his duobus Insulis ita pediculosi sunt ut nulla arte mederi possunt. Cuniculi hic æstate abundanter sunt. Hyeme vero adeo domabiles sunt ut in domibus capiuntur singulorum. Homines hic laici habeat calceos ex belluarum pellibus ligulo contractos vernacule *Riflings* vocatos.

## STRONSAY. 3.

Stronsay, vel Sdronsay, sic dicta quasi *the Streams Ile*.

Ista insula in longitudine est sex milliaria, quatuor vero in latitudine: Glæbæ hic abundantes sunt, atque dimidia pars hic inculta est. Quidam hic Deum pure colunt, alii non. Maxime etiam fidunt napeis (the Fairies) et dicunt homines subito morientes vitam postea cum illis degere, quanquam ego non credo. Preterea monstri marini nomine Troicis sepiissime coeunt cum mulieribus illic colentibus, quod cum ego illic colui, mulier illic erat formosa maritata colono forti; ipsa vexabatur spiritu maximo, invito marito, concubantibus in uno thoro, et naturaliter concubuit cum muliere, et videbatur. Mulier tandem macera facta est præ dolore: hortatus sum ut vacaret precatione eleemosyna et jejunio quod et fecit; durante anno  
 351. siccinæ turbata est. Descriptio istius monstri hæc est. Indutus est algis marinis, toto corpore, similis est pullo equino convoluto pilis, membrum habet simile equino et testiculos magnos.

#### PAPA STRONSAY. 4.

Et distat ab ista Insula alia, quæ vocatur Papa Stronsa, quæ parva omnino est, et agricola est unus ille colens, et in medio lacus est incolumis valde. Etymologia (*the Little Stronsay*). Altera jactu lapide.

#### AUSKERRIE. 5.

Est alia insula inculta, nomine Askerrie, ubi equi ferocis simi sunt.

#### SCHAPINSHAW 6.

Schapinshaw dicta (*the Shipping Ile*) Populi incolentes hanc insulam maxime sunt ignari, colunt napeis et alia nefaria. In longitudine est sex milliaria, in latitudine duo; illic currunt cetera maria ubi patet ingressus ad Kirkwalliam.

#### ELOERHOLME. 7.

Eloerholme insula nunc inculta, sed bases domorum et striga illic apparent, atque etiam sacellum. Causa vastationis atque desolationis hæc sunt. Duo fratres hic incolebant, unus cultor

veritatis, alter minime divinus; orta contentio inter fratres hic impius Episcopo enunciavit fratrem suum sponte cum affini concubuisse. Audita querela, Episcopus felle commotus, utrunq; expulit. Decedentibus uxoribus, flexis genibus Insulam devo-  
vebant quamobrem nullus adhuc diem coluit.

## WESTRAY. 8.

Westra quasi dicas Occidentalis Insula (*the West Isle*) omnium insularum Orcadiensium fertilissima est, atque illic genera nobilium colunt; et est excellentissima arx sive castellum, sed <sup>352</sup> nondum tamen adhuc completa. Olim Agricolaë hic habitantes pugnam ineuntes cum Hybernibus vernacule (*the Lewismen*), versiq; in fugam omnes simul perire. Unus tamen diu pugnabat præstantior atque robustior aliis intefectis. Cæsis tamen poplitibus, ad genua coactus est dum in certamine fuerit. In hac Insula unus est sublimis Mons.

## PAPA WESTRAY. 9.

Papa Westray, quasi dicas (*the Little West Ile*), subjecta est priori Insulæ, fertilis ut aliæ Insulæ. Lacus est in hujus Insula meditullio, et in Lacu Insula in qua capella parvula est.

## FARAY. 10.

Faray, quasi dicas pulchra insula (*the pleasant Isle*). Hæc Insula est maxime commodo Bestiis, precipue vaccis, quæ illic magna melodia tondant dumeta, et pueri cantant brutis. Tota Insula est frumenti et piscium plena.

## EDAY. 11.

Eday insula olim erat omnium Insularum Aquilonarium ditissima et circiter triginta Coloni illic habitabant, sed expulsi adveniente vastatore, ut vix unus illic nunc est. Abundantia illic magna omnium precipue pecorum. Viri sæpissimæ pugnant cum monstis marinis atque hora peracta desolvunt in fece, et coquunt in oleo. In ambitu hæc Insula continet decem milliaria.



## EGILSCHAY. 12.

353. Eglischay, quasi dicas Ecclesiæ Insularam (*the Kirk Ile*). In longitudine est unum milliare, latitudine autem dimidium. Ecclesia hic est Sancto Magno dicata; quamplurimi Insulam hanc pretereuntes vitalia lumina perdunt. Gallinæ hic quam plurimo ova deponunt, ita ut doliantur foro. S. Magnus in hac Insula natus est, et educatus est ab infantia, et domum dedit nutrici suæ, nempe unum messuagium terræ, ubi illa sacellum ædificavit, in quo Cameram in solo fecit, atq; Cunabulum, mensam, lectum, et alia necessaria domui ex lapidibus. Postea vero dirutum. Ubi segetes nunc sunt nihilominus supellectilia adhuc manent.

## ROWSAY. 13.

Rowsay quasi dicas Raulandi insula, magna Insula est, et maxima ejus pars inculta. In ambitu, hæc Insula continet 8 milliaria. Montes habet excelsos, et sæpissime igne incensos videntur, sine hominibus nocte, quod quidem mirabile est.

## WEIR. 14.

Weir, Insula est parva Petro apostolo dicata. Ceteris Insulis obumbrata ut vix videri potest, habitata colonis. Hic olim gigas habitabat procerus, ubi effigies domus adhuc manet; alii dicunt quod hæc Insula facta est ex cymba S. Magni dum fugeret ad Insulam de Eglischay.

## ENHALLOW. 15.

Enhallow, quasi dicas Sancta Insula, et minima; fabulantur hic antiqui quod si metantur segetes, post solis occasum, subito cruor de calamis frumentorum manat. Alii dicunt si equus ligatus fuerit sole dicedente facile vagatur undiq; per noctem sine alicujus offendiculo si vero non offendiculum est mali rei. Cernere hic posses eorum fictitias et fabulosas traditiones.

354.

## GARSAY. 16.

Garsay Insula habet tres holmas, et in Monticulum in medio surgit. Agricolæ hanc Insulam colunt ad marinum littus, sed minorem partem.

## DAMSAY. 17.

Damsay Insula: nullus tumulus hic est, sed placidissima est omnium, atque Tempe vocatur. Ecclesia est in hac Insula dedicata Mariæ Virgini, ad quam plerunq; mulieres progrediuntur gravidæ. Nunquam Ranae, Buffones, nec alia terrestria mala hic sunt; Mulieres hic steriles sunt et si gravidæ evenerint, nunquam cum vita pariunt; fabulantur quod aliquando supercilia auferuntur spatium unius horæ, deinde vero restituuntur. Distat hæc Insula a Kirkwallia duo milliaria.

## POMONIA. 18.

Pomoniam Insulam, aliter *the Mainland*, sic dicta, quasi (the middle of the Apple, because it lies betwixt the north & south Isles). Hæc insula continet multas parochias, quarum hæc est prima.

## DIERNES

Deirnes quasi (*the Nesse of Deirnes*): hac parochia olim erat naemorosa, et multæ feræ hic fuere; tandem diluviis venientibus, arbores, vulsis radicibus, submersi sunt. In Aquilonari parte istius parochiæ in mari est nativum Saxum ubi homines manibus et genibus quam difficillime ascendunt ad cacumen. Illic est sacellum quod nominatur (*the Bairnes of burghe*). Confluunt huc ex diversis Insulis, homines, juvenes, pueri, senes, servi innumerabiles. Venti vero, nudis pedibus, ut prius dixi, orantes ascendunt ubi nullus preterquam <sup>355.</sup> unus ad sacellum uno tempore venire potest: illic est fons purus et nitidissimus, quod quidem mirabile est: Tunc homines genibus flexis, manibus conjunctis, diffidentes Deum esse, orant (*the Bairnes of Brughe*) his Incantationibus, projicientes lapides et aquam post tergora, et circa sacellum bis terve gradientes. Finita Oratione Domum redeunt affirmantes se vota habuisse. Non pure hic colunt Deum.

In Anno 1506, Johannis Steuart, Donensis et Tartensis in aquilone appulit ad Orchadium, invenitq; aurifodinam in hac parochia: tandem implevisset duas naves et saburram aliis parasset, et cum operariis in aurifodio esset, Cornix alta voce exclamata est ter; egressi vero Magister cum quibusdam aliis,

sed ibi quinque relictis corrui saxum, suffocati sunt; Salvis cæteris omnibus.

#### SANCTI ANDRÆ

Secunda parochia dicitur S. Andræ. Hæc parochia est magna et frumenti ferax. Aliquod memorabile non hic est nisi quod occidit uno viro nobilissimo nomine Jacobo Sinclero, qui hic habitabat, et quodam bellum cum Cathanensibus (de quo suo loco dicitur) iniit, iste nobilis Dux captus est, demens evasit, et seipsum in mare precipitavit, ubi vitam finiit, quod quidem lamentabile fuit.

#### HOLM ET PAPLAY

Holm et Paplay duæ parochiæ sunt conjunctim ubi de duabus una Ecclesia est. Transfretantur hic homines profecturi ad australes partes.

#### SANCTI OLAI

Sancti Olai parochia est floridissima et amoenissima. In 356. medio stat civitas excellentissima nomine Kirkwallia ubi Ecclesia est dicata Sancto Magno quæ polonam haberet atq̃ retineret in tantum ut labyrintho similari potest: sedes Episcopopolis in civitate hic est, nomine (No the Zairdes). Castellum quondam fabricatum a Sincleris hic est: etiam alia Ecclesia, in cineres ab Anglis redacta, nomine *Saint Olais kirk* ubi nunc sepeliuntur malefactores. Deditæ sunt hic mulieres luxuriæ, sic puto propter piscium abundantiam. Hic undiq̃ in duabus partibus civitas est supposita aquis marinis. Hic mons est ingentissimus ubi tota Pomonia et omnes insulæ aspiciuntur, nomine *Whisford*, et est judicium belli Orchardibus, cum, fons in cacumine videtur scaturire. Orchades bellum gerebant cum Anglis apud civitatem Lotus quidam vocant Paipdelia in anno 1502, 13 Augusti. In quo bello Angli sunt prostrati et cæsi multiq̃ submersi cum eorum Duce, D<sup>o</sup> Johanne Elder milite; Edvardo Sinclero tunc Orcadiensium Duce.

#### FIRTH

Firth alia est parochia, ubi ostrea abunde capiuntur.

#### STENHOUSE

Stenhous alia parochia est, ubi lacus magnus est in circuitu Viginti quatuor milliaria; Illic in monticulo prope lacum in sepulchro inventa sunt ossa unius viri quæ quidem conjuncta fuere, et in longitudine erant 14 pedibus, ut author aiebat, et

moneta illic inventa fuit sub capite illius mortui; et ego quidem sepulchrum vidi: illic apud lacum lapides alti latiq; in altitudine unius hastæ, in pari circuitu dimidii milliaris. In anno 1527, bellum ortum est inter Cathenenses et Orcades: Cathenenses <sup>357.</sup> omni vi nitebantur invadere Orcades hastis, telis, sagittis et sonitibus tubarum. Pomonienses vero, dum hæc gerebantur, obviarunt illis, atque in monte istius parochiæ apud Bexwell acies simul junxere. Cathenenses omnes obversi fuerunt et interfecti, ut ne quidem unus superfuit. Sepulchram Comitis in eo loco adhuc manet; Avus erat istius Comitis nunc viventis. Orchades letitia commoti ob victoriam, ad civitatem redierunt Jacobo Sinclaro, de quo prius loquebar, duce. Campus ubi hoc bellum pugnatum est vocatur Symmerdaill.

## ORPHER

Orpher alia parochia est, bonum portum piscatoribus præbens.

## STROMNESS

Stromnes alia parochia est, et portum habet salutiferum. Classi hic exitus optimus. Galli Hispaniq; hic tempestates sæpissime evitant; hic nulli venti naves lædere possunt. Vocatur portus hic Cairstane, quia Saxis munita est. Salubres venti hic flant qui vocantur Etesiae. Periculosissimus hic est pons viatoribus nominatus (*the Bridge of Vaith*) ubi plurime pereunt.

## SANDWICK

Sandwick est alia parochia, fertilis valde et abundans cuniculis, maximaq; omnium parochiarum est, et culta tota.

## BIRZA

Birsa Baronía dicitur, ubi palatium est excellens, ubi olim regnabat Rex Orchadiæ; sed Julio Cæsare regnante Orbem totum, vi quadam Romæ deferebatur, et subjecta est Orchadia Romanis postea, ut Inscriptio unius lapidis testatur. Nomen Regis fuit Gavus.

## HARA

Hara alia parochia, ubi ignavissimi fuci sunt ideoque dicuntur (*the Sheeps of Haray*). Hic est magna Ecclesia dedicata Sanctæ Mariæ, vulgus vocat (*the Ladey of Grace*) de qua homines multa fabulantur. Hic multi confluunt ex diversis insulis.



## EVIE

Evie alia parochia, ubi cetæ immanes ingrediuntur. Hic magna est frumentorum abundantia.

## RENDAL.

358. Rendall alia parochia: ista parochia subjecta est Domino Tilliallane et ipse erat Dominus ubi domus testatur adhuc.

Longitudo Pomonæ (*from the Bairs of Burgh to the Burgh of Birsay*) continet 16 milliariibus longissimis. Hic viri bellicosi sunt circiter quinque millia in Pomonia, et totidem in Insulis. Abundantiam hordei et avenarum habet, atq omnes bibacissimi sunt hominum et luxuriosi, mutuo inter se præliantur: Exempli gratia, si Vicinis vicinum invitaverit, si invitatus, antequam decesserit, non vomuerit, litibus magnis herum invadit, donec potus domum concesserit: hic mos Insularum etiam. Vafri sunt et subtilissimi. Utuntur idiomate proprio, veluti cum dicimus Guid day, Guidman, illi dicunt goand da, boundae &c.

## INSULÆ ab AUSTRALI.

## COPINSCHAW, 19.

Copinschaw parva insula est, atq prima est visa navigantibus Orchadiæ. Unus hic colonus est. Saxum habet altissimum versus orientem: feræ volucres hic capiuntur in scopulo dimittendo puerum fune, siccine insideantur.

## SOUTH RONALDSAY. 20.

South Ronaldsay alia insula, ubi robustissimi homines habitant, habet templum juxta littus marinum, ubi lapis est durissimus, vulgus vocat *a gray whin*, longitudine sex pedum, latitudine quatuor, in quo pressura duorum pedum nudorum insigitur, quam faber nullus quidem fabricari potest. Fabulantur senes quod Gallus quidam patria expulsus, locoque  
359. asyli, ingressus est navem quandam, ubi subita procella orta, periclitatiq, passi sunt naufragiam, ipse tandem transiliens super tergum belluæ constitit suppliciter Deum orans, quod si salvus portaretur ad terram, in memoriam, S. Marie Virginis ecclesiam construeret. Oratione audita, salvus ad littus appulit, adminiculo belluæ. Bellua tandem mutata in lapidem

ejusdem coloris ipse in Ecclesiam collocavit, ubi adhuc manet, ut supra dixi.

## LAMBHOLME. 21.

Lambholme parvissima Insula est sterilis, et inculta, ubi multi cuniculi ab hominibus aliarum Insularum occiduntur.

## FLOTAY. 22.

Flotay, hæc insula est æquata mari et amœnissima. Vetus Domus hic est diruta sola quam quidam ecclesiam, alii Presbiterium vocant, longitudine magna, ubi singulis annis comitia agebantur sacerdotum. Ternæ trophæe hic erectæ sunt, quæ nos *Crosses* vocamus. Aversa sunt fabro murario, somniantem vero fantasmata ea, nocte deinde vexabatur mirabilibus. Vigilante vero minus effectus est et decumbebat lecto per spatium octo hebdomadam, ut author ipse fuit. Fodiens vero postea tentorium invenit in tumulo, candelabra, zonas, et alia mirabilia quæ hoc loco recenseri non expedit.

## CAVAY. 23.

Cavay quasi *the Cheese Ile* optimus hic caseus est: parva est sed commodissima bestiiis. Absque arboribus, propter ventorum impetum hic flantium: Una domus hic est cum duobus Tuguriis.

## FARAY. 24.

Faray, quasi Clara Insula (*the fair Isle*), hujus nominis duæ <sup>360</sup> sunt Insulæ, alia est adjacens et vicina Zetlandiæ. Hæc insula sterilis est et inculta, sed piscatus nobilis.

## SOWNAY. 25.

Sownay est insula fidam prebens stationem navibus peregrinis et piscatoribus. Avenæ et hordeum hic nascuntur; sed terra est admodum arenosa. Non procul a Kirkness hic est Braga, a nautis bene nota.

## RYSSA. 26.

Ryssa est insula arenosa, sterilis et inculta. Hic olim erant optimæ glebæ in tota Orchadia.

## BURRAY. 27.

Burray, vulgo Burge Insula, parva, sed hordei fructifera.

## WAIS. 28.

Wais, Pomonienses vocant hos homines *the Lyars of Wais*. Insula est non magna. Nulla distinctio est inter Hoy et Wais, sed una Insula est, recedente freto.

## HOY. 29.

Hoy, ingentissimus Mons hic est, distat enim a terra in pari altitudine tribus milliaribus, ubi ascensus non est. Alter est Mons non admodum adeo altus, inter quos lapis est admiratione dignus, magnus est et excelsus fabricatus a gigante suaq, uxore: unus lapis est cameratus in quo lectus est quam artificiose factus in lapide viro et uxore; tempore Camerationis, femina <sup>361.</sup> gravida fuit, ut lectus testatur. Nam ea pars lecti in qua uxor cubuit, effigies ventri gravidi est. In lapide pulvinar factum est duobus scuvialibus ex tumore lapidis, non tamen materia tenaci aliqua conjunguntur, sed unus est. Ostium habet obtrusum lapide, qui hoc fit, nescio. Fabulantur quod alter gigas in odium illum habebat, qua propter lapidem fabricavit longitudine et latitudine ostii, ut eos includeret, et ita fame perirent, tandemque ipso dominante insulam, ad suum usum lapidem haberet & retineret. Detulit tandem lapidem fabricatam in summitatem montis, atq, jaculo imposito summa vi brachiorum (atque dolore alterius prosperitatis), in ostium injunxit, gigante incluso evigilante, auribus lupum tenebat, exire nequiens, suis maleis impluvium fecit per quod egressus est. Si credere dignum.

In hac Insulæ, Betulæ crescunt, et non in aliis; nam aliæ insulæ absque arboribus sunt. Albi lepores hic sunt et capiuntur canibus. Magnam abundantiam avium habet vernacule vocant Lyris, piscium aliarumq, volucrum. Similiter hic sunt Aurifodia Plumbifodia, ferrifodia, et quamplurima alia bona.

## GRAMSAY. 30.

Gramsay est parva Insula, sed culta. Detrimentum magnum navibus.

## SOUTHAY. 31.

Southay, quasi *the South Isle*, vel australis insula, nunc inculta est, sed olim fuit fertilissima armentorum. Omnes hic pariter vitam uno die finierunt, fabula non est, sed relatio verissima et Christianis viris notatu dignissima. Veniente festo nostri <sup>362</sup>. Salvatoris Jesu Christi, quum isti habuerunt quoniam ecclesia illis deficiebat, ad vicinam Insulam proficisci, ingressi vero in cymba tam juvenes quam senes, subito procella orta, aquis insanientibus ultra modum omnes submersi sunt. In qua vero bestię, boves, oves, vituli, sues, canes, cuniculi et omnia alia illic viventia, mira ferocitate se in mare precipitabant, obrutiq; sunt, quod quidem verum fuit; nullus ad hunc usq; diem coluit.

The following is a translation into English of the foregoing Description of the Orkney Islands, by an unknown translator, under the title—*A Description of the Orkney Islands by Jo. Ben, living there in the year 1529. Translated from the Latin Manuscript in Barry's History of Orkney*

Some remarks on this translation are given in the Introduction.—ED.

A Description of the ORCADIAN ISLANDS, by me  
Jo. BEN, living there, in the year 1529.

## NORTH RONALDSAY. 1.

The first island is North Ronaldsay, from the north, and the land is level with the sea, and very often causes shipwreck to English and other navigators: it is distant from Kirkwall sixty miles, in circumference



four. The people are very ignorant of divine discourse, because they are seldom or ever taught. There is great abundance of corn there, viz. of corn and oats. The people in the winter live upon barley bread, but in the summer upon small fish and milk. In that part of the island, viz. the north, great monsters peculiar to the country (selchis) are taken with nets made of hemp, and there is a large rock distant from the land half a mile, by name Selchskerry, where sea-fowl live and build their nests. On that rock the monsters before mentioned, when the tide flows, ascend to the top, but on its ebbing they fall into a well, where by no force can they get out, there being no exit. The peasantry, mutually grumbling among themselves at delays coming in the way, draw near to the rock with large hazel sticks ; but at first the monsters, eyeing them with dread and gnashing their teeth with rage, strive to get out of the way with wide-open mouth, then they attack with all their strength, and voluntary carry on the combat. If the first escape without injury, all the others attack the men with their teeth, but if the first shall fall and die, all the others take to flight and are easily captured, and I have seen sixty taken at one time.

They have no fuel, unless from dried marine plants, but they have sandy turfs lighting very little in the fire, but in winter they enjoy that light which is out of the intestines of fishes or out of the abdomen ; and the best fire is from the dung of cattle spread on the wall and dried in the sun. Neither frogs, mice, nor toads live here, and if a ship shall have brought mice here they quickly perish as it were by poison.

## SANDAY. 2.

Sanday (so called as if it were the Sand Island, the Sandie Isle, because it is full of sand). It is distant from the former island two long miles : this island is in length twelve miles, and in breadth two. English and Germans very often perish here in one part towards the east, named the Star of Lopeness.

I myself, passing through the island, and being fatigued, rested myself at one church called the Holy Cross, and in the burying-ground I saw innumerable heads of men, about a thousand, larger than three heads now living, and I extracted some teeth from the gums of the size of a filbert nut. I was truly surprised, and, desirous of novelties, I discoursed with an old man, and inquiring who these were, and from whence the half-buried bones, he replied, Son, this island was formerly subject to the Stronsarians, and we also annually submitted to pay tribute that we might be free, seeing that we were not suited for war ; when, therefore, we increased, being very tired of paying the tribute, we took council in what manner we could get free.

Then one more prudent said to the others, Behold the day of freedom is arrived ; we will hide ourselves from them at the church, we will butcher them all to a man in holes so that not one shall escape : all

nodded assent to him. When the day was come, the Stronsarians with wives, sons, daughters, servants, and many other friends, weighing anchor with spread sails and a fair wind, without arms, elated with joy, landed on our shore, where they spent the greater part of the day dancing and singing. In the meantime the Sandesians and we living here being roused and begirt with the most proper weapons, both by sudden clamour and raising a terrible sound, attacked them and butchered them all to death, and indeed none here ever after paid tribute, and thus we were liberated.

These two islands, it is true, abound in lice, but of all the islands are the most gloomy.

The old as well as the young in these two islands are so lousy that they can be cured by no art. Rabbits are abundant here in the summer; indeed, in the winter they are so domesticated that they are taken into the houses of each. Laymen here have their shoes made out of seal-skins, drawn together with a latchet called in the vernacular riffings.

### STRONSAY. 3.

Stronsay, or Sdronsay, so called as if 'the Streams Isle.' This island is six miles in length and four in breadth: peats are abundant here, and a half part is uncultivated. Some here worship God purely, others not. They also greatly believe in fairies (the Fairies), and say men dying suddenly afterwards live with them, although I do not believe it. Troici, under the name of a marine monster, very often cohabit with women living here, which, when I lived there, a beautiful woman was there married to a sturdy farmer; she was tormented with a great spirit, and was seen against the husband's will lying in one bed, and he cohabiting naturally with the woman. The woman at length became emaciated from sorrow: I advised that she might get free by prayer, almsgiving, and fasting, and which she did; she was thus troubled during a year. The description of this monster is this. He was covered with marine plants over the whole body, he was similar to a young horse covered with hair, he had a member similar to a horse and large testicles.

### PAPA STRONSAY. 4.

And is different from that other island, which is called Papa Stronsay, which is very small, and there is the same husbandman tilling it, and in the middle there is a lake very shallow. Etymology (the Little Stronsay). From the other a stone's throw.

### ANSKERRIE. 5.

Is another uncultivated island where the horses are very ferocious.

## SHAPINSHAY. 6.

Shapinshay called (the Shipping Isle). The people inhabiting this island are very ignorant: they worship fairies and other wicked beings. In length it is six miles, in breadth two; other seas run in that part where a passage opens to Kirkwall.

## ELOERHOLME. 7.

Elerholme island is now uncultivated, but the foundations and remains of houses appear there, and also a chapel; the causes of the devastation and desolation are these. Two brothers lived here, one a worshipper of truth, the other very little religious: strife arising between the brothers the latter impiously informed the bishop that his brother spontaneously cohabited with a near relation of his wife. Having heard the complaint, the bishop, moved with gall, expelled both; departing with their wives, they cursed the island on bended knees, for which reason none inhabit it to this day.

## WESTRAY. 8.

Westray, as if you said the west island (the West Isle), is the most fertile of all the Orkney Islands, and noble families live there; and there is a most excellent fort or castle, but not as yet completed. Formerly the peasantry living here going out to fight with the Hibernians, in the vernacular (the Lewismen), and being overcome in battle, all perished together. One nevertheless fought for a long time more bravely and more fiercely after the others were slain; however, having his hamstrings cut, he was brought to his knees whilst he was in the contest. In this island there is one high mountain.

## PAPA WESTRAY. 9.

Papa Westray, as if you said (the Little West Isle), is subject to the former island, as fertile as the other islands. There is a lake in the middle of this island, and an island in the lake on which there is a small chapel.

## FARAY. 10.

Faray, as if you said fair island (the Pleasant Isle). This island is very convenient for cattle, especially cows, which graze there on the bushes with great satisfaction, and the boys sing to the cattle. The whole island is full of corn and fish.

## EDAY. 11.

Eday was formerly the richest of all the northern isles, and about thirty farmers lived there, but were expelled by the arrival of a spoiler,

so that scarcely one is there now. There is great abundance of everything, especially of cattle. The men very often fight with sea monsters, and an hour having passed over they melt into fat dregs and boil into oil. In circumference this island contains ten miles.

### EGILSCHAY. 12.

Egilschay, as if you may say the kirks of the island (the Kirk Isle). It is one mile in length and half a mile in breadth. The church here is dedicated to St. Magnus. Many passing here lose their lives. The hens here lay so many eggs that they are troubled for a market. St. Magnus was born in this island, and was educated from infancy, and gave a house to his nurse, viz., one messuage of land, where she built a chapel, in which she made a vault in the ground, and a couch, table, bed, and other necessary things for a house out of the stones; but it was afterwards destroyed. Nevertheless the household things still remain where corn fields now are.

### RON SAY. 13.

Ronsay, as if you may say the island of Roland, is a large island, and the greatest part of it is uncultivated. In circumference this island is eight miles; it has high mountains, and very often they appear lighted up with fire, without men, in the night, which indeed is wonderful.

### WEIR. 14.

Weir is a small island dedicated to the Apostle Peter. It is so hid by the other islands that it can scarcely be seen: inhabited by farmers. Here formerly lived a tall giant, where the form of the house still remains. Others say that the island was made out of the boat of St. Magnus when he fled to the island of Egilshay.

### ENHALLOW. 15.

Enhallow, as you may say the Holy Island, and the smallest. Here old people relate that if corn be cut down after sunset, immediately blood flows from the stalks of the grain; others say that if a horse be tied whilst the sun is setting it will easily wander everywhere during the night, without hindrance from any one, if indeed there be not hindrance by evil intent. Here you may discern the fictitious and fabulous traditions of these people.

### GAIRZAY. 16.

Gairzay has three holms, and rises into a little mountain in the middle. Farmers inhabit this island to the sea shore, but the lesser part.



## DAMSAY. 17.

Damsay island : there is no rising ground here ; but it is the most pleasant of all, and is called Tempe. The church in this island is dedicated to the Virgin Mary, to which pregnant women oftentimes go on pilgrimage. Frogs, toads, nor any other noxious terrestrial animals are ever here ; sterile women are here, and if they shall become pregnant, they never bring forth with life. They relate that sometimes the proud are carried away for the space of an hour, but then restored. This island is distant two miles from Kirkwall.

## POMONIA. 18.

This island Pomonia, otherwise the Mainland, so called as if it were (the middle of the apple, because it lies betwixt the north and south isles). This island contains many parishes of which this is the first.

## DIERNES.

Dierness as it were (the ness of Diers). This parish was formerly woody, and many wild beasts were here ; at length floods coming, the trees having been torn up by the roots, were submerged. In the northern part of that parish there is in the sea a natural rock where men ascend to the top on hands and knees with very great difficulty. There is a chapel there which is called (the Bairns of Burgh). Hither out of various islands men, youths, boys, old men, innumerable servants flock together ; but having come, with naked feet, as I formerly said, praying they ascend, where none except one can come to the chapel at one time : there is there a fountain pure and sparkling, which indeed is wonderful : then the men with bended knees, and clasped hands, distrusting that there is a God supplicate (the Bairns of Burgh) with many incantations, throwing stones and water behind their backs, and walking twice or thrice round the chapel. Having finished their prayers they return home affirming that they have performed their vows. Here they do not worship God purely.

In the year 1506 John Stewart, *Donensis et Tartensis*, in the north came to Orkney, and found a gold mine in this parish ; at length when he had filled two ships and prepared ballast for others, and when he was with workmen in the mine, a raven exclaimed aloud three times ; indeed the master went out with some others, but five being left there the stone fell, and they were suffocated ; all the others being saved.

## SANCTI ANDREE.

The second parish is called St. Andrews. This parish is large and fertile in corn. There is nothing memorable here unless what happened to a very noble person, named James Sinclair, who dwelt there, and when a war began with the Caithness men (of which it will be spoken in

its proper place) that noble leader was taken captive, madness seized him, and he precipitated himself into the sea, where he ended his life, which indeed was lamentable.

### HOLM and PAPLAY.

Holm and Paplay are two parishes joined together, where there is one church for the two. Here men when about to set out for southern parts are ferried over.

### ST. OLAS.

St. Olas is the most flowery and delightful parish. In the middle stands that most excellent city named Kirkwall, where there is a church dedicated to St. Magnus, *quæ polonam haberet atque retineret in tantum ut labyrintho similari potest* (sic): the seat of the bishop is here in the city, by name (no the Yards). Formerly a castle was built here by the Sinclairs: there is also another church here, reduced to ashes by the English, named St. Olas's Kirk, where criminals are now buried. Women here are given to excess in carnal pleasures, I think thus so on account of the abundance of fish. Here on every side in both parts the city is exposed to the sea. Here there is a very high mountain where the whole of Pomonia and all the islands may be seen, named Wishford; and it is a judgment of war to the Orcadians when a fountain on the top is seen to run over. The Orcadians carried on war with the English at the city Lotus, which they call Papdale, in the year 1502, 13th of August. In which war the English were defeated and many slain and drowned with their leader, Lord John Elder, a soldier, the leader of the Orcadians being then Edward Sinclair.

### FIRTH.

Firth is another parish where oysters are taken abundantly.

### STENHOUSE.

Stenhouse is another parish, where there is a large lake twenty-four miles in circumference. There, on a little hill near the lake in a sepulchre were found the bones of a man, which indeed were connected together, and were fourteen feet in length, as the author said, and money was found under the head of the dead man in that place; and I indeed saw the sepulchre. There at the lake are stones high and broad to the height of a spear, in an equal circle of half a mile. In the year 1527 war arose between the Caithnessmen and the Orcadians: the Caithnessians strove with all their force to invade Orkney with spears, darts, arrows, and the sound of trumpets. But the Pomonians, whilst these things were going on, were making opposition to them, and on a moun-

tain in that parish at Bexwell the armies joined battle ; all the Caithnessians were routed and slain, so that not one indeed survived. The grave of an earl yet remains in this place ; he was ancestor to that earl now living. The Orcadians, elated with joy on account of the victory, returned to the city with James Sinclair their leader, of whom it has been previously mentioned. The field where the battle was fought was called Symmerdale.

#### ORPHER.

Orpher is another parish affording a good harbour for fishermen.

#### STROMNESS.

Stromness is another parish, and has a safe harbour ; here is the best exit for a fleet. The French and Spaniards very often avoid tempests here. Here no winds can hurt ships. Here is a harbour called Cairstane, because it is made safe with stones. Salutary winds blow here, which are called Etesian. Here there is a most dangerous bridge for travellers, named (the Bridge of Naith) where many perish.

#### SANDWICK.

Sandwick is another parish, very fertile and abounding with rabbits ; it is the largest of all the parishes, and wholly cultivated.

#### BIRZA.

Birza is called a barony, where there is an excellent palace, where formerly the Kings of Orkney reigned, but Julius Cæsar governing the whole world, by some power it was conveyed to Rome, and Orkney was afterwards subject to the Romans, as the inscription of a stone testifies. The name of the king was Gavus.

#### HARA.

Hara is another parish where there are very lazy drones, and therefore called (the Sheeps of Haray). Here there is a large church dedicated to St. Mary commonly called (the Lady of Grace), of whom men narrate many fables. Here many flock together from the different islands.

#### EVIE.

Evie is another parish where whales enter in. Here there is a great abundance of corn.

## RENDAL.

Rendal is another parish. This parish was subject to Lord Tulliallan, and he was lord where the house still bears witness.

The length of Pomonia (from the Bairns of Burgh to the Burgh of Birzay) contains sixteen very long. The warlike men in Pomonia number about five thousand, and just the same in the islands. It has abundance of barley and oats; all the men are very drunken and luxurious and mutually fight together. For the sake of example if a neighbour have invited another neighbour, if, being invited, before he hath departed he hath not vomited, he assails the host with great disputes until the drunkard hath departed the house. This is also the custom of the islands. They are cunning and very subtle. They use a peculiar idiomatic expression, as when we say Guid day, Guidman, they say goand da, boundæ, etc.

## COPINSHAW. 19.

Copinshaw is a small island, and is first seen by sailors to Orkney. Here is one husbandman. It has a very high stone towards the east; winged fowl are taken here on a high rock by sending down a boy by a rope, thus they can be ensnared.

## SOUTH RONALDSAY. 20.

South Ronaldsay is another island where very strong men live. It has a temple near the sea shore where there is a very hard stone commonly called a gray whin, six feet in length, four in breadth, on which the pressure of two naked feet is fixed, which no workman indeed is able to make. Old men narrate that a certain Gaul, being expelled the country, and for a place of safety went on board some ship, when a great tempest suddenly arose, they were exposed to danger, and suffered shipwreck, he at length jumping upon the back of a monster, vowed, humbly praying God, that if he should be carried a safe man to land, in memory thereof he would build a church to the Virgin Mary. The prayer being heard, he was drawn a safe man to shore, by the assistance of the monster. At length the monster being changed into a stone of its own colour, he himself placed it in that church, where it still remains, as I said above.

## LAMBHOLME. 21.

Lambholme is a very small sterile island, and uncultivated, where many rabbits are killed by men of other islands.

## FLOTAY. 22.

Flotay, this island is level with the sea and very pleasant. There was an old house here, wholly pulled down, which some call a church, others



a presbytery, of great length, where the assemblies of the priesthood transacted business each year. Three trophies are here erected, which we call crosses. They were taken away by the workman who built the wall, but he, dreaming those phantasies, was afterwards in the night-time troubled with wonderful visions, but when awake he was less troubled, and lay on his bed for the space of eight weeks, as he himself told; but digging he afterwards found a tent in a tumulus, candle-sticks, girdles, and other wonderful things which it is not expedient to mention in this place.

### CAVAY. 23.

Cavay, as if it were (the Cheese Island), the best cheese is here; it is small but very convenient for cattle; without trees, on account of the force of the wind blowing here. There is one house here with two cottages.

### FARAY. 24.

Faray, as if it were the Fair Island (the Fair Isle), there are two islands of this name, the other is adjacent to it and in the neighbourhood of Zetland. This island is sterile and uncultivated, but there is noble fishing.

### SOWNAY. 25.

Sownay is an island affording a secure roadstead to foreign ships and fishermen. Oats and barley are produced here. But the land is very sandy. Here, not far from Kirkness, is Braga, well known to sailors.

### RYSSAY. 26.

Ryssay is a sandy island, sterile, and uncultivated. The best peats in all Orkney were formerly here.

### BURRAY. 27.

Burray, commonly the Burge Island, is small, but bearing barley.

### WAIS. 28.

Wais—the inhabitants of Pomonia call the inhabitants the Lyarz of Wais—the island is not large. There is no distinction between Hoy and Wais, but it is one island from the firth receding.

### HOY. 29.

Hoy, there is a very large mountain here, for it is distant from the land in equal altitude, three miles, where there is no ascent. There is

another mountain, not so very high, between which there is a stone worthy admiration, it is large and high being made by a giant and his wife ; one stone is hollowed out, in which there is a bed very artfully made in the stone for the man and wife ; at the time of hollowing out the stone the woman was pregnant, as the bed testifies, for that part of the stone in which the wife lay has a likeness of a pregnant belly. In the stone a pillow was made with two hollows out of the rising of the stone, nevertheless they are not joined by any tenacious matter, but it is one. It has the mouth shut forcibly by a stone ; who made this, I know not. They tell a story that another giant had a hatred to this one, on which account he made a stone the length and breadth of the mouth that he might shut them up, and so that they might perish with hunger, and at last he himself ruling the island might have and retain the stone for his own use. At length he carried the prepared stone to the summit of the mountain and placing it as a dart by the great strength of his arms (and envy at the other's prosperity) joined it upon the mouth, the shut up giant watching attentively was every way in danger ;<sup>1</sup> being unable to escape he made a gutter with his hammer through which he escaped—if worthy credit.

In this island birch-trees grow, and not in the others, for the other islands are without trees. White hares are here and are taken with dogs. It has abundance of birds, called in the vernacular *lyris*, of fishes, and of other winged fowl. Here likewise are gold mines, lead mines, iron mines, and many other good things.

### GRAMSAY. 30.

Gramsay is a small island, but cultivated ; it is a great detriment to ships.

### SOUTHAY. 31.

Southay, as if it were, the South Isle, or southern island, is now uncultivated, but formerly it was very rich in cattle. Every one here finished their life in one day in the same manner—this is no story, but a very true relation, and worthy to be noted by Christian men. At the approach of the festival of our Saviour Jesus Christ, when they held it since the church was insufficient for them, they went to a neighbouring island, and proceeding in a boat, both young and old, a sudden storm having arisen, whilst the waters were raging beyond measure they were drowned. Whereupon indeed the cattle, oxen, sheep, calf, pigs, dogs, puppies, and every living thing there precipitated themselves into the sea with wonderful ferocity, and were drowned, which indeed was true ; no one has lived there to this day.

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<sup>1</sup> Terence uses the phrase '*auribus lupum tenere*,' to be every way in danger.

## OF the HUSBANDRIE used by the ORCHADIANS.

They teill not till the spring of the yeir, and as they teill, so they saw ther aittes. ther pleuche is drawen by foure beastis going side for side: the Caller gangis befor the beastis backward with a whipe: the halder of the pleuche lyes on with his side on the Pleuche: the culter and the socke be not twa pound in waight. The oxin be zokid with cheattis and heamis and brachimis, quilk they call Weasies, albeit they have hornis: They saw in a Creill made of stra, called ane Cassie, and of ane handfull they make four casts.

Ther horses leive on beare calfe and grow exceiding fatt on the same. They be verey litle, bot quick and fierie.

363. Men heir keipe the observations of the Moon, in sa far that they sla ther martes, at the vaxin therof affirming they grow in the barrell.

Ther Calfes nevir soukis ther mother. Ther cornes are very guid, to wit, beare and aittis. All handled by men, the women nather [shake] the stra, nor zet winowes the corne. They guid ther land with sea Ware, and lightlie midden mucke.

FINIS.

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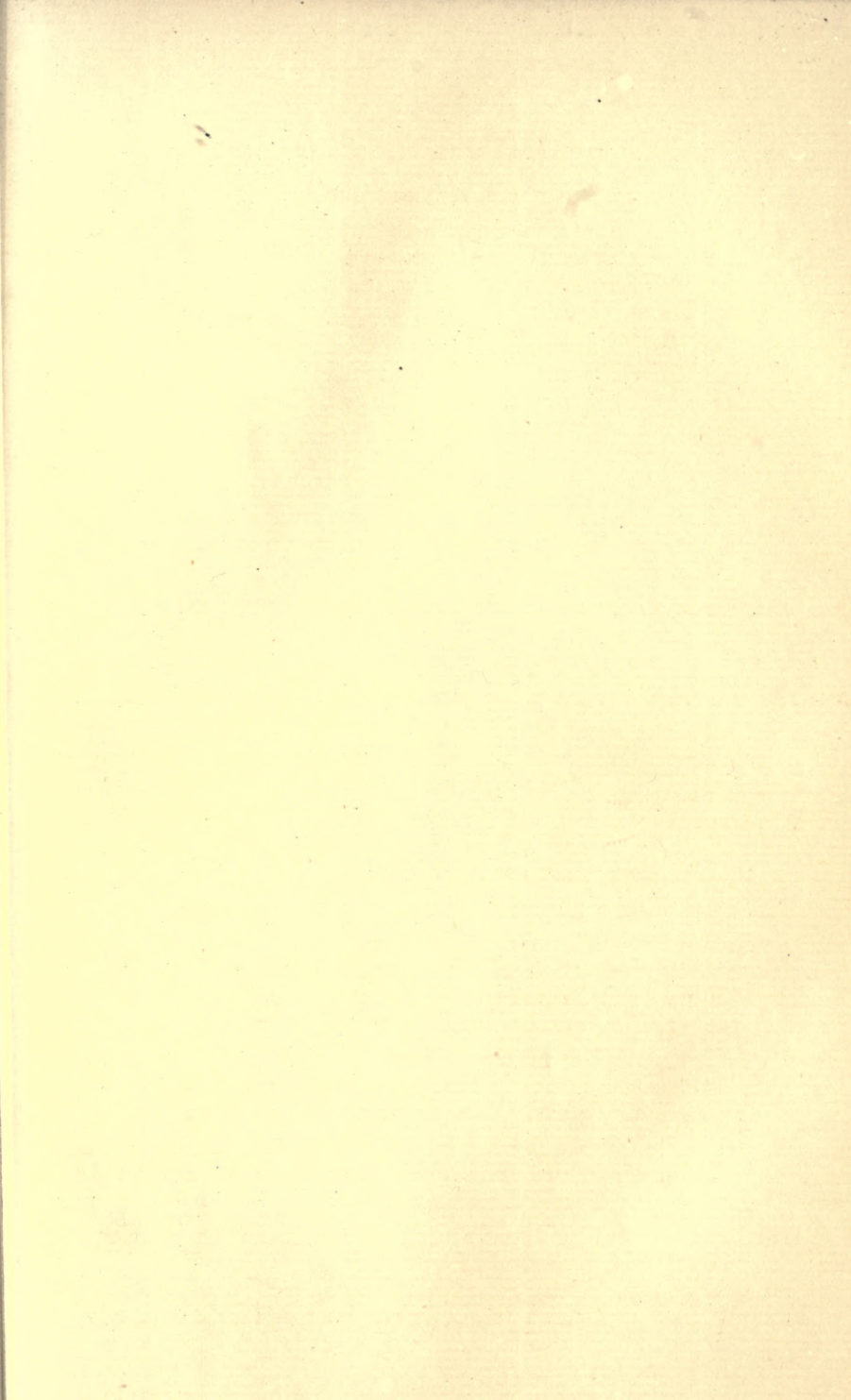
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